"Dame Curtsey's" Party Pastimes

for the Up-to-Date Hostess

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"Dame Curtsey's" Book of Party Pastimes
for the Up-to-Date Hostess

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COSTUME BARN PARTY

"Dame Curtsey's" Book of Party Pastimes for the Up-to-Date Hostess

By

Ellye Howell Glover

Author of "Dame Curtsey's" Book
of Novel Entertainments for
Every Day in the Year
Etc.

Third Edition

Chicago

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1917

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Foreword

THE success of the "Dame Curtsey" books has been such as to warrant the publication of the present volume in response to the constant demand for "something new, something different" that every hostess desires for her parties whether large or small. The schemes herein presented are all practical, many of them arranged for moderate purses, with directions clearly stated, for the benefit of the thousands of people who have no time to do their own thinking. Acknowledgement is due *The Chicago Record-Herald* and *The International Press Bureau* for the privilege of using much of the material that makes this book possible.

E. H. G.

Chicago, July 1, 1912.

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Party Pastimes for the Up-to-Date Hostess

CHAPTER I.—PASTIMES FOR JANUARY

A New Year's Toast

Here's to the old year! Drink, boys, drink.
Here's to the days that have fled,
Old friends, old wine, old memories;
Drink to the joys that are dead.

Here's to the New Year stretching ahead,
To the days that are blithesome and gay,
May the joys of the old be the joys of the new,
Its sorrows fade gently away.

For the New Year

ALL over the world New Year's Day is a joyous season, and the custom of giving presents is a most ancient one. In olden days the Romans carried gifts of dates and figs wrapped in gold leaf to their senators with small bits of money. In the time of Shakespeare there were some very odd gifts associated with New Year's Day, among them an orange stuffed with cloves, or a gilt nutmeg.

In France it is the general custom to present one's friends with a gift at New Year's, and I find many people do it here. Many of us love all occasions on which we have the opportunity of remembering our loved ones. Here is a charming verselet to accompany the gift from a sweetheart:

Another year of smiles and tears,
Another year of grief or glee,
Another year of all my years
I dedicate to thee.

Diaries and "Line-a-Day" books are always acceptable gifts, and doubly valuable if inscribed with a sentiment like this, written in the giver's own hand:

My sheets invite
The hand to write
Each day on one
Of something done—
I trust, no ill;
But better still
A blotted scrawl
Than naught at all.

All those who contemplate having friends to watch the New Year come in will welcome this invitation and close the envelope with a "bell" seal, or write the message in gold on a white bell-shaped card; add hour and address with name of hostess:

Soon the midnight bell will chime,
"One lap more for Father Time!"
Come with song and merry din
Help us bring the New Year in!

Greetings for the New Year

Child of eternity, child of the silence,
Fair New Year,
Wise with the wisdom sages have left thee,
Bend thine ear;
Lift up the veil that covers thy features,
Strange New Year!
Rainbow a promise over the darkness,
Lest we fear.
Bury our yesterdays, foolish and empty,
Fathoms deep;
Leaving the mound unmarked, untended,
Where they sleep.

Then shall the morrows find us valiant,
Scorning fear,—
Meeting thy glance with glance undaunted,
Glad New Year!

A New Year's Eve Party

THIS really clever affair was original with the hostess. There were twelve guests. Each one was assigned a month in the invitation, and she came dressed to represent that month. Then each girl had the privilege of asking a man who was to come representing an event or prominent person associated with the month represented by his fair lady.

On arriving, it was most interesting to see the ways the girls took to represent the months, and their escorts the events. For instance, an animated firecracker accompanied "July," a Santa Claus came with "December," who was clad in pure white with a chaplet of holly.

There was an informal dance, and at eleven o'clock refreshments were served. The guests all watching the hands of the clock, at five minutes before twelve arose, joined hands and sang, "Auld Lang Syne." As the hour sounded, the hostess opened the front door for the passing out of the Old Year and the entrance of the little New Year.

There was a fortune cake containing a good wish or a prediction for each one. The latter were tightly rolled and concealed in gilded nutshells. The place cards were cut in bell shape and had little calendars on them tied with a knot of red ribbon. The one who guessed the most events or characters was presented with a wee travelling clock; the other two prizes were calendars.

Party for New Year's Eve

THE invitations were on bell-shaped bits of red cardboard, with lettering done in gold. The wording was to

this effect: "Miss Blank requests your presence at a calendar party on the eve of the New Year to bid farewell to an old friend and welcome a new-comer. Please come wearing something to represent the month of your birth, one of the special days, if possible."

On the night in question it was a most bewitching sight. Many had the flower, stone, and verse representing their birth month, and some wore an object to represent the special day or days in that month. For instance, July was gay with red, white, and blue and a fringe of small firecrackers around the tunic of the gown, with a crown of gilt stars, and silk flags on the side of the bodice. She carried a basket of poppies, wore an enormous ruby ring and presented a card to the hostess, which read:

Those who in warm July are born,
The glowing ruby should adorn;
Then will they be exempt and free
From love's doubts and anxiety.

In the dining-room the table was in yellow, with a small tree for a centrepiece trimmed with gilt tinsel and small crêpe paper oranges; each one contained a small gift; in gilded walnut-shells on the tree, there was a "wish" for each guest. In fact, the hostess called it a "wish tree." The favors were dainty calendars; with the ice cream a "prophecy" cake appeared, containing a number of small articles, such as a ring, heart, wishbone, thimble, button, coin.

New Year's Reception

New Year's calls, like many other good old fashions, are returning to favor, and it is now quite the thing to give receptions on the first day of the year. Especially for debutantes is the time auspicious, for the men have no excuse to offer for not being present. The hours are

from 4 to 7 and the opportunity is great, for everyone is apt to be in a holiday humor. After the reception an informal dance may follow with only ices served. The Christmas greens are in evidence, with mistletoe hung in bunches fastened by scarlet satin ribbons.

There was an old custom that said mistletoe should be used at Christmas only, but the legends say that Christmas lasts until the sixth of January, or "twelfth night"; so, make the best possible use of the mistletoe, as there is something very fascinating about its waxen berries combined with holly.

Punch may be served; or a frozen eggnog is very nice and has a touch of novelty. Surround the bowl with a huge wreath of holly. In the dining-room the usual reception refreshments may be offered.

A Good Resolution Party

This, of course, should take place on New Year's Eve. Pass slips of paper with the word "Resolved" written at the top, with the request that a set of six resolutions be written, to be unsigned, but read aloud by the hostess at the supper to be served at ten o'clock. The hour for this party was ten, so that all would be on hand to welcome the New Year. I give examples of "resolves" that were forthcoming at such a party:

I will be as honest as the times will permit.
I will spend less time before my mirror—be the self-denial what it may!
I will break no more hearts.
I will not cross bridges before I get to them—it would be too difficult.
I will be good to all, but gooder to myself.
I will tell no more lies—except social ones, which are necessary, or I should be ousted from society.
I will be what I wish to be thought.
I will live closer to my ideals.
My best self shall rule.

Where I pluck out a fault, I will try to plant a virtue.
I will look at life through rose-colored spectacles.
I will welcome all the bits of happiness by the way.

As the hostess read them the guests tried to guess who was the author, and the one who guessed the most correctly was awarded a large calendar.

The place cards at the table were small calendars with pictures of the new home of the hostess at the top. At each cover there was either a tin horn or a small drum which was used on the stroke of midnight. At each plate she had a tall white candle and a ball of red and black cord, which, she explained, signified the "joys and sorrows" of the year. To the balls cards were attached bearing this sentiment:

Twine ye, twist ye, even so
Mingle shades of joy and woe,
Hope and fear and peace and strife,
In the thread of human life.

After the spread each guest was told to unwind his or her ball onto a gilded stick, and at the end of the "life" line would be found a hope or ambition realized. As the hostess knew the people very intimately, it was not difficult to provide symbolic favors. For instance, the young doctor found a wee automobile at the end of his string; the girl with the wanderlust strongly developed found a tiny steamer; the musically inclined man found a violin, etc. The flowers were white, and at the request of the hostess the girls wore white, and the men came in summer flannels. It was a very pretty ending to a happy New Year's day now gone to join the procession of eternal years, one of the annals of the past.

A Calendar Luncheon

This luncheon may be given any time during January. Ask just twelve guests and write the invitations on little

calendars. Have tiny pads and pencils at each plate, the name being written on the first leaf. With each course, six in all, two resolutions are to be written, after which the pad is passed so the resolutions will be written by different persons. The hostess is to read all aloud when the after-dinner coffee is served around the grate fire in the living-room.

This game may be played: Suspend twelve baskets from an archway or in the doorway, each one with the name of a month on it. Provide twelve rubber balls, each with the name of a month printed on in black. The trick is to see who can place the greatest number of balls in the right baskets. The score does not count if the ball does not go into basket of same name. Each person is permitted two throws with each ball. This is a hard game and full of fun. Award a calendar for a prize.

A Calendar Tea

May be arranged in this way: In the invitation ask each guest to state her birthday month when she accepts. Then, if it is a large tea or luncheon seat those having the same month at tables decorated especially to represent it. On the place card have written important events of the month, the stone, the flower and the motto, if there is one; also names of great men and women who have been born in the month. This makes very interesting conversation.

Novelty for a New Year's Dance

Have a florist make a large bell of wire; cover the frame with holly; a rim of mistletoe adds to the attraction. Get balls of confetti; wrap in white tissue paper, dip in liquid glue, then in diamond dust; place these balls inside the bell; paste paper across the bottom, permitting four ribbons of red and green to come through from the

clapper. When the hostess wishes, four guests pull the ribbons, each guest gets a ball and a merry pelting with confetti follows, and all wish each other a "Happy New Year." This is best for the close of the party. If the party winds up with a cotillion the favors may be horns, bells, calendars, and all good luck symbols.

A January Birthday Luncheon

This pretty luncheon was hastily arranged in honor of a friend who was going away, and by accident the hostess learned the day set for her entertainment was also her friend's birthday. As the guests were all very intimate friends and only too glad of the opportunity to show some attention to the departing guest, they all contributed a small sum with which the hostess purchased a charming garnet bar-pin. It was tied to a bouquet of red roses. On the card was written this verse, allotted to the month of January:

> By her, who in this month is born,
> No gems save garnets should be worn;
> They will insure her constancy,
> True friendship and fidelity.

The flower for the month is the pearly snowdrop, and there was a huge bunch of them in a red Bohemian glass bowl for the table centrepiece. Red candles were used with shades of the same color, and a lovely fire blazed in the grate. Altogether it was a most hospitable affair. With the dessert of frozen pudding came a birthday cake with the name of the guest picked out in small red candies. The cake was on a candle board surrounded by a circle of blazing red candles. Each guest made a wish and blew one out before the cake was cut. After this the maid brought in the bouquet on a silver tray, and the pin tied in a wee white box with garnet ribbon was discovered.

An "Old Christmas" Party

The sixth of January brings "Twelfth Night," or as it was called in olden times, "Old Christmas." This date is really the "Epiphany," and is commemorated by Churchmen as the day Christ was made manifest to the Gentiles.

On this day the Magi or Three Wise Men from the East, led by the star of Bethlehem, came with their gifts. How many of us remember Longfellow's poem, which begins:

> Three kings came riding from far away,
> Melchior and Gaspar and Balthasar.
> Three wise men out of the East were they,
> And they travelled by night and they slept by day,
> For their guide was a beautiful, wonderful star.

The custom of celebrating this day is prevalent in nearly all the European countries, and it is the jolliest kind of a feast day in England. With some of the ideas given here I am sure many a hostess will arrange a party that will bring the holiday season to a memorable close.

One thing that must be done is to burn every vestige of Christmas greenery. If perchance any be left, the place will be haunted by gobblins, one for every unburned twig or leaf. If there has been a Yule log, a bit of it must be saved with which to kindle the next year's Yuletide fire. Personally, I knew a man, one of God's noblemen, who to the very last of his life clung to this traditional custom. Even when he lived in one of our great cities and had only a wee grate, he burned a small slab of wood in lieu of the Yule log and carefully saved a fragment to lay on the grate "the next" Christmas. Would there were more of us alive to the sentimental side of things; we would not have so many commonplace days. Here is a verse in the quaint old spelling

that tells better than I can of this custom. I cannot give the author credit, as it is unsigned:

Kindle the Christmas brand, and then
Till sunset let it burne,
Which quenched, then lay it up again
Till Christmas next returne.

Part must be kept, wherewith to teend
The Christmas log next yeare;
Where it is safely kept, the fiend
Can do no mischief there.

A large cake is part of the Twelfth Night refreshments; in England the bakers used to try to outdo one another in their wonderful creations, and their triumphs were on display in shop windows, before which throngs gathered. In a cake to be eaten on this occasion there must go a bean, a pea, and a clove. If a man draws the bean, he is the king. If a girl gets it she presents it to the man she wishes to honor. The pea makes its owner "queen" if a girl gets it; a man getting it presents it to the girl he wishes to honor, and the one whose slice contains the clove must be the court jester, regardless whether it is a boy or girl. The evening may be filled with all sorts of merry games, dancing and revelry, for at midnight the "Lord of Misrule" ends his reign. The twelve days of feasting are over, and the world settles down into a regular routine.

St. Agnes's Eve

St. Agnes's eve comes on the twentieth of January, and a hostess may give the required touch of novelty by following out some of the omens and traditions supposed to be connected with this day.

On St. Agnes's eve young maidens were supposed to peer into the future to divine the character of intended

husbands. It was a time for love prophecies, the pin test being especially popular. So a paper of doll's pins might be laid beside each plate with a copy of this quaint jingle:

I stick this pin, this pin I stick,
To know the thing I know not yet;
That I may see
The man that shall my husband be—
Not in his best or worst array,
But what he weareth every day,
That I to-morrow may him ken
From among all other men.

A row of pins is taken out while a line is repeated, and all the pins must be put in the sleeve. To make the charm effective, they say, the waist with all the pins must be worn all night. The man who comes to remove the pins is *the* one. I suppose if the maiden has a dreamless night that she is doomed to single blessedness for another year.

Rosemary and thyme were the especial flowers to be used on this day. If the old-fashioned posies can be found, put a nosegay at each plate with a pair of tiny wooden shoes. At the finish of the luncheon, dinner or whatever the affair may be, each girl is to take a bit of "rosemary and thyme" and place in the shoes. When she goes to bed a shoe is to be placed on either side of her downy couch to insure just the right dreams and their happy fulfillment.

White flowers, with a white menu as far as possible, make a table pretty, passing with dessert a tray of marshmallows and a wee glass candlestick containing a white candle, one for each guest, to be taken as souvenirs. Toasting marshmallows at the table and watching to see whose candle burns the longest, is a happy finale to a luncheon or dinner. The first candle to go out foretells, "no wedding for a year," the one with a flickering flame

denotes an interrupted courtship; the one that burns clean and clear to the socket means a wedding within a year.

These suggestions may be utilized by each individual hostess as best suits her needs. Probably not one in ten will remember that it is the eve of St. Agnes, and the words may be written on the invitation just to give people something to think about.

Toasts for the New Year

God bless the master of this house,
Likewise the mistress, too,
And all the little children
To whom the day is new.

Welcome be ye that are here,
Welcome all and make good cheer,
Welcome all another year.

Under mistletoe and holly
A party gay and jolly
In games will pass the hours away
Of this our festive New Year's Day.

Ring out the old, ring in the new;
Ring, happy bells, across the snow;
The year is going, let him go;
Ring out the false, ring in the true.

May every joy attend you,
And Heaven daily send you,
Blessings in heart and home.

A resolution let us make,
On this bright New Year's Day,
Throughout the year we'll wear a smile,
And fret dull care away.

Come, let's join the merry throng!
Upon the coach of life we'll ride,
Speeding the coming year along
Happy we'll be, whate'er betide.

CHAPTER II.—PASTIMES FOR FEBRUARY

For Candlemas Day

ON the second day of February comes Candlemas Day, which was observed by our remote ancestors as religiously as Christmas. In fact, all of our festival days had their origin in religious rites and ceremonies. This special day was a feast of the purification of the blessed Virgin. In ancient times to burn candles on this day was supposed to ward off evil spirits for the ensuing year. The candles were also symbolical of our Lord's being the Light of the World. For a luncheon have an unshaded taper at each place; and white flowers must be used, snowdrops if procurable, Roman hyacinths and lilies of the valley are both suitable. With delicate maidenhair ferns and a circle of white candles the table will be beautiful in its purity.

Where doll supplies are kept, tiny candles and candelabra may be obtained that are intended for the furnishing of doll houses; they will make just the right souvenirs for an occasion of this kind. At the end of the feast pass wax matches and request each girl to light her candle. A bright spot in the flame denotes the receiving of a looked-for letter; if the flame is wavering there will be a spell of bad weather. In Europe they say:

> If Candlemas be fair and clear
> There'll be two winters in the year.

The candle burning the longest means a happy, prosperous marriage; the one that goes out first augurs ill

for the bride. Before the candles are permitted to go entirely out, try this fortune: Let each girl stand three paces from the light and endeavor to blow it out with as few puffs as possible—for each blow denotes a year's delay in her wedding. The ice cream may be served in candle moulds, and a blanched almond lighted and put in for a wick will burn for several moments—long enough to bring out a chorus of "Ohs" and "Ahs," when brought to the table. The scheme will give the added touch of "something different" so eagerly sought by hostesses, and will afford a new topic for conversation.

For Dickens's Birthday

The next special day on which the hostess may add a touch of novelty to her functions is the seventh, the birthday of Dickens, who is without doubt the king of all story writers.

A club which devotes itself exclusively to his works planned this very clever and almost impromptu affair, which was held at the home of one of the members.

The demand for charity had been great, and this entertainment was evolved with all the interest that quickly conceived and promptly executed things have. This shows what twenty young women may do when concentrated action and the able assistance of an equal number of men come to the rescue.

Post cards portraying Dickens characters were sent to the friends of the members, asking them to come to the Dickens shop on day and date given. The significant words, "Bring a full purse," told the object of the affair, but all the plans were kept secret.

There were six booths, as follows:

"Great Expectations" was a fish pond, presided over by the enthusiastic daughter of the hostess. She had collected the articles, tied them up into interesting par-

cels, and cleared a goodly sum. The "Old Curiosity Shop" had a great variety of things, both useful and ornamental. The booth was decorated with old pieces of China and Sheffield lent for the occasion and was presided over by "Little Nell," assisted by her "grandfather."

The "David Copperfield" booth, with "David" in charge, had a fine collection of copper articles, sold on commission for an "arts and crafts" guild. The prices were marked at so many "coppers."

A very interesting booth bore the sign, "The Tale of Two Cities," and had goods characteristic of London and Paris. There were English and French china, post cards, neckwear and lingerie for sale. Tea was served with toasted muffins, orange marmalade, and there were chocolate and rolls. "Lucy Manette" and "Madame Defarge" were in charge.

"Pickwick Papers" was in charge of Sam Weller, who sold toothpicks, icepicks, nutpicks, lampwicks, stationery, and magazines.

"Bleak House" had a variety of attractive novelties for the house, presided over by "Esther Summerson."

The club members were all costumed as characters from Dickens, and acted as reception committees. Charming small volumes of Dickens were on sale at all the booths. Many of the articles had been contributed by merchants, and a number of things were sold on commission.

For reading aloud we suggest Kate Douglas Wiggin's "A Child's Journey With Dickens" (Houghton, Mifflin & Co.), and selections from Henry Van Dyke's appreciation of Dickens, Scribner's Magazine for June, 1912.

This affair would be seasonable at any time, and is a very novel method of having a bazaar for either a church or club society.

For Lincoln's Birthday

The birthday of the "Great Emancipator" comes on the twelfth and is worthy of our heartfelt celebration. Log cabins bought at candy stores, with realistic chains, are fine for the table; very good log cabins may be made from sticks of horehound candy. The post-card dealers have a supply of Lincoln cards that will serve nicely for place cards or invitations. There has been a great revival in literature pertaining to Lincoln and a short sketch called "He Knew Lincoln" is just the thing to read aloud at a Lincoln party. Bales of cotton and little pickaninny dolls are suitable favors, and our glorious flag, small size, in silk, is always an acceptable souvenir.

The refreshments at such an affair should be simple. Here is what one hostess had: First, baked beans in individual brown earthenware ramekins, hot Boston brown bread with raisins in it, potato salad, coffee, pickles, chocolate blanc-mange in tall glasses with whipped cream, small sponge cakes. Molasses taffy with salted peanuts was passed. This was served to a card club so the hostess made the occasion a bit different by having Lincoln favors and score cards.

Luncheon on Lincoln's Birthday

The dining-room was decorated with flags, the centrepiece being a representation of a Southern scene with a realistic log cabin and darkey dolls dressed in blue gingham pinafores and a cute toy mule with a cart loaded with bales of cotton. Over the table there was a fern ball, in which small silk flags were thrust to be taken by the guests to pin on their dresses or put in the hair.

The place cards were ornamented with a picture of Lincoln and the shield of the United States beneath it. At each end of the table there was a large bow of red, white, and blue ribbon. The menu was quite unique.

First, cream of corn, with bread sticks tied with the tri-colored ribbon. Tiny stars cut from cold boiled beets were on top of the whipped cream which capped the soup. Next came chicken breasts with cannon-ball potatoes cut with a tiny round cutter obtainable at any housefitting store; red and white radishes and green peas. Next "patriotic" salad, made of tomatoes on white hearts of lettuce and mayonnaise served on blue plates. The dessert was ice-cream forts made by taking cones of vanilla cream and placing candied cherries on the side like gun sights, capping all with a flag. The cake was cut and iced to represent American flags, blue candies being used for the stars. To hold the nuts and bon-bons there were drum-shaped boxes.

Lincoln's Favorite Poem

LINCOLN was never tired of repeating or quoting the poem, "O, Why Should the Spirit of Mortal Be Proud?" by William Knox. It is not known where he first encountered it, but it was his favorite bit of verse.

We are delighted to give it entire, as so many young people and teachers will welcome it for the birthday celebration of our first martyr President.

O, why should the spirit of mortal be proud?
Like a swift-fleeting meteor, a fast-flying cloud,
A flash of the lightning, a break of the wave,
Man passeth from life to his rest in the grave.

The leaves of the oak and the willow shall fade,
Be scattered around, and together shall fade;
And the young and the old, the low and the high,
Shall crumble to dust and together shall lie.

The infant a mother attended and loved,
The mother that infant's affection who proved,
The father that mother and infant who blest,—
Each, all, are away to that dwelling of rest.

The maid on whose brow, on whose cheek, in whose eye,
Shone beauty and pleasure,—her triumphs are by;
And the memory of those who loved her and praised
Are alike from the minds of the living erased.

The hand of the king, that the sceptre hath borne,
The brow of the priest, that the mitre hath worn,
The eye of the sage and the heart of the brave
Are hidden and lost in the depths of the grave.

The peasant, whose lot was to sow and to reap;
The herdsman, who climbed with his goats up the steep;
The beggar, who wandered in search of his bread,—
Have faded away like the grass that we tread.

The saint who enjoyed the communion of heaven;
The sinner who dared to remain unforgiven;
The wise and the foolish, the guilty and just
Have quietly mingled their bones in the dust.

So the multitude goes, like the flower or weed,
That withers away to let others succeed;
So the multitude comes, even those we behold,
To repeat every tale that has often been told.

For we are the same our fathers have been;
We see the same sights our fathers have seen;
We drink the same stream, we view the same sun,
And run the same course our fathers have run.

The thoughts we are thinking our fathers would think;
From the death we are shrinking our fathers would shrink;
To the life we are clinging they also would cling,
But it speeds for us all like a bird on the wing.

They loved, but the story we cannot unfold;
They scorned, but the heart of the haughty is cold;
They grieved, but no wail from their slumber will come;
They joyed, but the tongue of their gladness is dumb.

They died—aye! they died—we things that are now,
That walk on the turf that lies over their brow
And make in their dwellings a transient abode,
Meet the things that they met on their pilgrimage road.

Yea, hope and despondency, pleasure and pain,
Are mingled together in sunshine and rain;
And the smile and the tear, and the song and the dirge,
Still follow each other like surge upon surge.

'Tis the wink of an eye, 'tis the draught of a breath
From the blossom of health to the paleness of death,
From the gilded salon to the bier and the shroud,
O, why should the spirit of mortal be proud?

College Hearts for St. Valentine

This is played just like military euchre, except that each table represents a college instead of a fort. The tables are decorated with the individual college colors, a pennant of the school being suspended over the table; a bow of the color is on the back of the chair. Tiny hearts are used for keeping the score, and each table has the college yell to use when victorious.

Every game won is marked by hanging a large heart on the pennant above the table. These hearts have a wire hook attached for hanging easily.

The following table gives an idea how to carry out the game:

TABLE 1—HARVARD

Game 1—Couple 1 and 2 defend table 1.
Couple 3 and 4 attack table 3.
Game 2—Couple 1 and 4 defend table 1.
Couple 2 and 3 attack table 2.
Game 3—Couple 2 and 4 defend table 1.
Couple 1 and 3 attack table 4.
Game 4—Couple 3 and 4 defend table 1.
Couple 1 and 2 attack table 3.

TABLE 2—VASSAR

Game 1—Couple 1 and 2 defend table 2.
Couple 3 and 4 attack table 4.
Game 2—Couple 1 and 4 defend table 2.
Couple 2 and 3 attack table 3.
Game 3—Couple 2 and 4 defend table 2.

Couple 1 and 2 attack table 1.
Game 4—Couple 3 and 4 defend table 2.
Couple 1 and 2 attack table 4.

TABLE 3—YALE

Game 1—Couple 1 and 2 defend table 3.
Couple 3 and 4 attack table 1.
Game 2—Couple 1 and 4 defend table 3.
Couple 2 and 3 attack table 4.
Game 3—Couple 2 and 4 defend table 3.
Couple 1 and 3 attack table 2.
Game 4—Couple 3 and 4 defend table 3.
Couple 1 and 2 attack table 1.

TABLE 4—BRYN MAWR

Game 1—Couple 1 and 2 defend table 4.
Couple 3 and 4 attack table 2.
Game 2—Couple 1 and 4 defend table 4.
Couple 2 and 3 attack table 1.
Game 3—Couple 2 and 4 defend table 4.
Couple 1 and 3 attack table 3.
Game 4—Couple 3 and 4 defend table 4.
Couple 1 and 2 attack table 2.

A Valentine Wish Party

It was indeed an ingenious hostess who evolved this charming affair for St. Valentine's evening. For the benefit of many entertainers the scheme is given entire.

The invitations, sealed with tiny red hearts, bore this jingle:

We gladly indite you
This note, and invite you
On Valentine's evening to come
And join in a hearty
New-fangled wish party
With friends who will make you at home.

For some time previous to this the wishbones of all the turkeys and chickens that had been consumed by the family and neighbors had been saved with this occasion in mind. Now they were fastened upon a heart-shaped

valentine, one for each guest, a special rhyme embodying a wish being inscribed with gold ink. These rhymelets may be made to suit the personal individuality of each guest if the hostess takes a little extra time in the preparation. A few specimens are given:

I wish you were a hammer,
And I a box of tacks;
You could drive me very gently
With gentle little whacks.

I wish I were a gallant knight,
And you my lady fair;
I'd serenade you every night,
Oh! what a happy pair.

I wish that life
But held for me
Some joy that I
Might share with thee.

I wish for you a life of gladness,
Full of joy and free from pain,
Full of mirth and free from sadness,
Bright as sunshine after rain.

I wish I were an elephant
And you a bale of hay;
I'd tuck you in my rubber trunk
And carry you away.

If you were a fisher and I were a fish
I'd swallow the hook on your line,
Because I should know that this was your wish,
And your wish, of course, would be mine.

If possible the rhymes may be illustrated with little pen-and-ink or water-color sketches, thus making a delightful souvenir of the party. To choose partners for supper or refreshments, suspend two bags heart-shaped, from the ceiling by broad streamers of ribbon or tulle.

They must be several feet apart; then thread baby ribbon through them, the ends hanging out of the side of either bag. The men take the end of a string on one side, the girls on the other, at a given signal the strings are pulled, the hearts are broken and partners are found at either end of a string.

If it is a buffet luncheon and the men assist in the serving, they may be given aprons made from white crêpe paper, having a border of flaming red hearts. The napkins may be adorned in a similar manner, if it is impossible to buy them decorated for the occasion.

Since the observance of "special" days has become such a general custom, merchants have recognized the fact and keep a supply of novelties in the way of dinner favors and souvenirs for each occasion as it comes. If the supply of wishbones is equal to the demand, one may be given to each lady to be pulled with her partner to see whose wish will come true. Artificial wishbones may be purchased by the dozen.

Valentine Toasts

HERE'S to the prettiest
Here's to the wittiest,
Here's to the truest of all who are true,
Here's to the sweetest one,
Here's to the neatest one,
Here's to them all in one,
Here's to you.

She may be here, she may be there;
She may be dark, she may be fair;
Perhaps she's large, perhaps she's small;
Perhaps she's low, perhaps she's tall;
But till the sun forgets to flame
Each heart shall pledge her changeful name;
As pure as gold, as fine as myrrh,
As dear as heaven—here's to her.

—*Arthur Guiterman.*

Thy lips are sweet,
Thy dress is neat,
Thou'rt altogether hard to beat;
But, best of all, thy pies and cake
Are such as mother used to make;
So if thou truly will be mine
Then I will surely be but thine.

A Children's Valentine Party

Issue the invitations on heart-shaped cards, preferably of pink, and decorate with pink hearts cut from thin cardboard. These hearts may be purchased by the hundred in all sizes, or they may be made at home.

Have ready on a large sheet of white paper the drawing of a man, just the head and shoulders. Pin this on the wall, then blindfold a child and give him or her a bright red cardboard or paper heart. Turn the victim around three times and then tell him to walk to the man on the wall and pin the heart in its place. This is very funny. Next hang from a doorway or the ceiling a heart made heavy enough so it will hold the string down within reach of the guest, give him a pair of scissors and walk him once around the room with final instructions to walk to the heart and cut it down.

After this a quiet game will be acceptable; so pass cards with the word "Valentine" done at the top. Allow fifteen minutes for making as many words as possible out of the one word. Then collect the cards and award a prize to the one having the most. In fact, rewards should be offered for the two stunts described above, as it always adds zest to work for something. There are many inexpensive novelties appropriate for St. Valentine. Oh, yes, I forgot to say that each guest should be requested to bring a valentine to be dropped in a box. Before refreshments the hostess takes them all out of the box, gives one and a pencil to each guest, telling

the girls to address it to a boy and the boys to address to a girl, after which she distributes them. To choose partners for supper or for a game, make as many hearts as there are couples, cut them in irregular bits, then tell the company to find their "other half." See that no two hearts are cut alike.

A Valentine Luncheon

SEND the invitations on valentines inclosed in the regulation fancy envelope. For the table centrepiece have a Cupid, and from this little god of Love have garlands of tiny artificial rosebuds sewed on baby ribbon radiating to each place.

The guests may find their seats by hand-painted hearts on which are portrayed each one's fad or fancy with no names written. The figures will be all Cupids. One card showing him with a camera, another portraying him on horseback, another carrying a golf bag, etc. Small hearts sprinkled over the table at random are decorative, also a fringe of them around the candle shades.

For souvenirs get heart-shaped boxes with a gilt arrow on top, fill with tiny heart bonbons. This is a delightful menu and not too elaborate, so almost any hostess will be able to utilize it.

Serve heart-shaped canapes spread with anchovy paste, then tomato bouillon with a spoonful of whipped cream on the top, placed there just before sending to the table; a crown roast of lamb with peas in heart-shaped pastry cases; sweet potato croquettes, a salad of string beans, minced sweet pepper, carrot cubes and cauliflower moulded in heart-shaped forms with gelatin; put a dash of mayonnaise or with a beet heart on top. Heart-shaped meringues filled with strawberry ice-cream make an attractive dessert. There are heart-shaped bonbons to be tied together with gilt tinsel, which look very pretty in tall glass comports at either end of the table.

Unique Valentine Invitations

The hostess at a card club had these quaint invitations for a party Feb. 14: In bright red envelopes she placed hearts of lurid hue on which was written: "Hearts are trumps. No previous attachments considered." The date, hour, name, and address followed. She had hearts shaped from ice-cream, which she cut from brick cream with a tin heart-shaped cutter, and the cakes were made the same way. The score was kept by dropping candy motto hearts into a silk bag made like a heart, the draw string being of gold cord. Gilt hearts were glued on the bags, which were of red and decorated. Red carnations were used, and small dolls dressed in tulle with gilt wings representing Cupids were the favors at each place.

Caramel Valentines

Try this clever little scheme called "Caramel Valentines": Take red or white cardboard hearts, paste little hearts all over them for decoration, and right in the middle put a caramel wrapped in gold or silver paper. Make tiny slits on all four sides, through which run baby ribbon (use a ribbon runner). Cross the ribbon over the caramel so as to keep it in place; tie in a wee bow on top. Write something like "Sweets to the sweet" on top beneath the bow. Children also love heart-shaped cookies made with hole in the top through which ribbon may be run for favors.

King and Queen of Hearts

For "King and Queen of Hearts" the invitations must be heart-shaped. The hostess may draw a heart outline in black India ink and write the words in red. First have a hunt for hearts, using candy motto hearts or small ones of cardboard or paper that may be purchased by the

hundred for a nominal sum. The man who finds the most is crowned "king," and the girl who captures the most will be the "queen of hearts." Make the crowns of pasteboard covered with gold paper, notch the edges into points capped by a heart, then paste hearts around the rim.

There should be large hearts to be worn like shields, tied in place by ribbons. These are minute directions, for there have been so many requests from very young readers who want to know exactly how to give a Valentine party.

The royal pair may be given envelopes containing red hearts marked with black hearts, which the queen distributes to the men, each being numbered; the king distributes to the girls white ones marked with tiny red hearts, also numbered. When the numbers are matched partners will be found for refreshments.

As a pretty feature the hostess may have valentine sentiments written on cards attached to an immense heart, suspended in the hall, from which colored cords wind in and out, up stairs and down. This is Cupid's maze; when unravelled, there will be a valentine favor on the end of each string.

Allow twenty minutes for the writing of original valentines, with a prize for the best, all to be read aloud, the girls voting on the men's creations and *vice versa.*

To make things lively during refreshments have the doorbell ring violently and a postman enter with "special deliveries" from Cupid's court. This would be a good way to present any souvenirs the hostess might wish to give. They might be just valentine postcards for each one. They are so attractive this year.

For the table centrepiece there should be a large heart-shaped cake containing a thimble, ring, coin, heart, lock, key, and any other articles the hostess may wish to put

in. The "queen" will preside over the cutting of the fortune cake and the "king" with much ceremony will pass it. Ices, cakes, meringues, sandwiches, patty shells, and bonbons may all be ordered in the form of hearts. Attractive candle shades for this function may be made by tying four hearts together with bows of ribbon and having a fringe of wee hearts. Heart festoons to the table corners are also good, with traceries of the tiniest hearts imaginable over the table.

Washington's Birthday Celebration

Clubs, churches, and individual hostesses seem to plan for special entertainments for February 22. It is a day we all celebrate in grateful remembrance of the first man honored by the Presidency. We honor him not only as a patriot, but in these days of ardent revival of all things colonial we recall Washington as a splendid example of life as it was at that time. Thinking that the "Father of Our Country" is often fêted to the exclusion of his better half, a woman's club planned a most interesting reception at which the wives of our presidents acted on the reception committee. Most libraries and many family bookcases contain two volumes entitled: "Ladies of the White House," and from the illustrations therein the costumes were made.

The room was transformed into regular colonial style by borrowing or renting furniture of the period. It is surprising how much may be collected, such as brass candlesticks, foot warmers, pewter, plate, old china, and spinning wheels. There was a programme of typical American songs to the accompaniment of an old melodeon.

The tea table had four ladies to pour, a half-hour each at a time, and the young women of the club dressed in costumes as described in "Janice Meredith." There were tea, coffee, Banbury tarts, sponge cake, sandwiches of

salt-rising bread, wee pickles, orange marmalade, and preserved ginger, served by these attractive maidens.

There was a short programme bringing out each White House lady as her name was called, with some incident that made her career in Washington memorable.

In the tearoom the predominating colors were blue and buff, and the walls were covered with some old prints of famous Americans. They were made in the fifties, and were very interesting.

Such affairs are educational and enjoyable. We are apt to think the women have had no very active part in forming our history, and it is well worth while to disabuse any mind of any such fallacy.

Novelty Ice Cream and Cakes

To serve ice cream on February 22, make balls of vanilla cream, pile three up like cannon balls and stick a small silk flag in the top of each just before sending to the table. The cake may be cut from a large sheet of layer cake into rounds by using a biscuit cutter; frost all around with chocolate icing and serve with the ice cream. Children are delighted with this pretty arrangement. It only takes a little extra time, and surely the birthday of the nation's father is a special occasion.

Here is a recipe for George Washington hatchets: Mix and sift two cupfuls of flour and half a cupful of brown sugar. Add half a cupful of butter and the yolk of two eggs, and work, using the hands, until smooth. Toss on a slightly floured board, roll to one-third of an inch in thickness and cut in hatchet shapes, using a sharp-pointed knife, being guided by a soft cardboard pattern previously prepared. Place a candied cherry on each hatchet and brush over with the yolk of egg slightly beaten and diluted with one teaspoonful of water. Place

on a tin sheet and bake in a slow oven until delicately browned.

A Hatchet Party for the Twenty-Second

This hatchet party was given by an organization that stands for temperance, but the scheme could be adopted for other purposes as a novelty for the Twenty-second. The invitations were issued on hatchet-shaped cards, and the envelopes fastened with a patriotic seal. Here is the invitation:

"Ye Young Women of the Y. W. C. A. extend ye invitation to meet ye Hatchet Family of ye anciente tyme at ye home of Miss Mary Brown on ye evening of February ye 22d of ye year of our Lord 1911, at eight of ye clock."

Below is a list of the receiving dames, dressed in Martha Washington costumes consisting of flowered chintz over-dresses, with skirts of a plain colored satine, perhaps quilted. The waists will open over a white kerchief, with elbow sleeves. Round caps, with frills of lace, surrounded by a band of ribbon, complete these very becoming dresses.

Johanna Adams Hatchet.
Tomazine Jefferson Hatchet.
Jamesina Madison Hatchet.
Jemima Monroe Hatchet.
J. Quinciana Hatchet.
Andrewsia Jackson Hatchet.
Wilhemina Henrietta Harrison Hatchet.
Johnsetta Tyler Hatchet.
Marty Van Buren Hatchet.
Jinny Keturah Polk Hatchet.
Zacherina Taylor Hatchet.
Milleralla Fillmore Hatchet.

The Original State Party

THIS hostess was very brave, and had just thirteen guests at her very unique party, which she gave on February 22. When questioned why she had thirteen guests, she said, "One for each original State, don't you see?" Boys and girls were told to come wearing the hair in the style of the time of Washington. As they arrived each was handed a slip of paper on which were written the nicknames of the thirteen first States, which are:

The Granite State (N. H.), the Bay State (Mass.), the Nutmeg State (Conn.), Little Rhody (R. I.), the Empire State (N. Y.), the Razor-Back State (N. J.), the Keystone State (Pa.), the Blue Hen State (Del.), the Line State (Md.), the Old Dominion (Va.), the Tar State (N. C.), the Palmetto State (S. C.), the Cracker State (Ga.).

This was a good starter, and conversation was lively until tea was announced. Here is the menu:

Columbia, the Gem of the Ocean (Oysters).
Croquettes de l'American Eagle (Chicken).
Peas. Olives. Biscuit.
General Greene Salad (Lettuce and Celery).
Lafayette Dressing (French).
Revolutionary Cannon Balls (Cheese Balls).
American Ice. Washington Pie.
Liberty Cake.
Old Government Java.
Fourth of July Crackers.

Washington's Birthday Game

GET a carpenter to smooth off a nice pole about four feet high, plant it firmly, well braced in a tub, then paint in circles the following colors, more if you want to conjure up more rhymes. Pass to each guest a card with these jingles and a nice, sharp little hatchet tied with streamers of red, white, and blue. The color one strikes

the hatchet in tells one's fate. Of course the victim is blindfolded:

Blue—Your life will be tried and true.
Red—You will be forced to beg your bread.
White—Your deeds will always bear the light.
Green—You're bound to find great wealth, I ween.
Pink—Good will come where you least think.

A Washington Centrepiece

From an azalea bush or a California pepper plant make an adorable cherry tree, by attaching candied cherries, or the imitation cherries made from almond paste, which confectioners have at this season. Then from the tree run red ribbons to each place, where they may be attached to little cherry log candy boxes. The effect is good, and is suitable for a party given for children or adults.

A Toast for the Twenty-Second

Here's to the tree and the cherries it bore;
Here's to the hatchet that smote it full sore;
Here's to the lad that was honest and true;
Here's to his colors, the red, white, and blue;
Here's to his sword with the laurel entwined;
Here's to the hero in all hearts enshrined!

—Arthur Guiterman.

Washington Children's Party

Use the American flag for decoration, having it in evidence throughout the room; then, for the table centrepiece, on a silk flag for a doily have a large cake with a flag on top, the stars made of candied violets, and the stripes of red and white frosting.

For a contest, see if the children can cut out a star from folded paper; let them hunt gilt stars hidden throughout the room. For prizes the confectioners show a bewildering assortment of symbolic candy-boxes, those

in shape of hatchets, logs, and cocked hats being especially attractive.

This is a fine opportunity for using the "Flags of All Nations." For a few cents one can purchase an envelope filled with paper flags representing every country. As they are held up, the one knowing where it belongs identifies it and is awarded that flag. Then have a tree drawn on a sheet, or large bit of paper fastened to the wall; hand in turn a bunch of artificial cherries to each one, blindfolded, and see who can pin them where cherries ought to be. All those who get the bunch on a branch might receive a handful of candied cherries.

Serve cherry sherbet, decorated with candied cherries; the cakes ornamented in the same way, with wee hatchets for name cards.

For Longfellow's Birthday

On February 27 comes the natal day of one of our beloved American poets. Longfellow holds his own in the hearts of all loyal Americans; and this affair, planned for the school children by an up-to-date teacher, was charming. It was given at the home of one of the pupils:

There was a platform at the end of the big living-room, where the children gave tableaux, all taken from Longfellow's works. The invitations were sent on Longfellow post cards, and the decorations were Indian trophies, blankets, etc., borrowed from a retired army officer and used as a setting to the series of pictures arranged from "Hiawatha." There were refreshments of weak tea, because, as a small lad said, "Boston was the place of the famous tea party and Longfellow lived in Boston"; and then baked-bean sandwiches, because "everyone who lived in Boston was supposed to know 'beans'"; olives and ice cream and cake complete the list. I am sure nothing would please the one who wrote

"The Children's Hour" more than to know with what keen interest his birthday is celebrated by the American children of to-day. One of the show places of Boston, or, more properly speaking, Cambridge, is the famous house on Brattle street where the poet lived and died.

Keeping it as he used it is a joy, for it makes everything seem so very real to those who are so fortunate to be there on the half-day a week that the rooms are open to the public.

Excellent prints may be obtained and used as souvenirs both of the poet and his home.

CHAPTER III.—PASTIMES FOR MARCH

A March Supper Party

THIS was arranged for an after-theatre spread and the hostess kept in mind the "Mad March Hare" idea, as the table centrepiece was a big brown bunny surrounded by a circle of little brown bunnies. There were funny little rabbits holding wee Japanese turned-inside-out parasols (doll size) at each plate, and the bonbon boxes were carrots and Easter eggs. The *pièce de résistance* was, of course, Welsh rabbit made in the chafing dish and chicken salad served in nests, lettuce hearts garnished with egg rings.

If Easter comes in March, the supper would be suitable for the week following Easter, while the favor counter is still supplied with rabbits and eggs of all descriptions. This charming verse might be written on the place cards with water-color blue-birds flying over them:

> In March the earliest bluebird came
> And carolled from the orchard tree
> His little tremulous songs to me,
> And called upon the summer's name,
> And made old summers in my heart
> All sweet with flower and sun again.
> —*William Dean Howells.*

A Violet Luncheon

VIOLETS are the flower for the month of March, so here is an opportunity for the hostess to give a violet luncheon. For the centrepiece have violets in a low jar with a corsage bouquet tied with violet gauze ribbon at

each place. Candle shades of lavender with silver tracery are very effective.

Serve caviar on toast, grape fruit with cherries, bouillon, baked oysters in ramekins, breast of chicken cutlets, peas, potato croquettes, hot rolls, cucumber salad in cucumber boats, cheese and raspberry jam; baskets of spun sugar in violet tint filled with ice-cream and candied violets; coffee and violet-hued bonbons.

Grape juice may be served with the repast, and if expense does not have to be considered, the hostess may present each guest with a stick pin in the form of a violet.

A gown of any of the heliotrope shades would be appropriate for the hostess to wear.

For Saint Patrick's Day

It is not necessary to be a descendant of Erin to celebrate the "seventeenth of Ireland," and many hostesses save this date so as to add a bit of novelty to their entertainment. Here is a copy of an invitation issued by a hostess who was always clever in planning for special days:

Miss Elsie Gray
begs the honor of your riverint prisince
at a rivilry
in memory of St. Phadrig
Saturday avenin', March the Siventeenth
At 357 Elm street
Ivry wan is requisted to wear
a thrifle of grane
To extinguish himsilf from the ithers

They were on cardboard of green cut in shape of a harp (a shamrock would be equally pretty) and written in gilt ink. To decorate a house as they would in Ireland there should be large crosses of straw and flowers hung over the doors. A blackcock is also a symbol, for on the

Seventeenth this bird was solemnly sacrificed in memory of St. Patrick.

A novel way of selecting partners for any game the hostess may plan, or for refreshments, is to have a grab bag covered with green; in it place just half as many symbolic favors as there are guests, having the duplicate tied up in green crêpe paper. The men grab and the girls are given their favors in the dressing-room. When all assemble in the drawing-room the favors are matched.

A soap bubble contest with clay pipes tied with green ribbon is a good stunt, the prize for the most or best bubbles blown in a minute to be a cake of green soap or a bottle of green-hued toilet water in a bottle tied with a huge green bow. By the way, let me tell you how to make attractive cheese balls to serve with the salad: Take Neufchatel or "Blue Label" cheese and drop a wee bit of green vegetable coloring (get at drug store) on it; blend well with a few finely chopped pistachio nuts; form into balls the size of large marbles.

Irish Luncheon Menu

Cream of Potato Soup, with Powdered Parsley
Celery Curls (Pigtails)
Salted Almonds
Pigs in Blankets (oysters skewered in slices of bacon and broiled)
Coleslaw
Croquettes Shaped Like Potatoes, Resting in Beds of Cress
Stuffed Baked Potatoes (fixed with tiny wooden skewers to resemble pigs)
Spinach Served in Shamrock Decorated Cases
Shamrock-shaped Bread and Butter Sandwiches
Sweet Watermelon Pickle or Spiced Peach Decorated with Angelica Shamrocks
Salad of French Beans, Peas and Pearl Onions in Lettuce Leaf
Ice Cream in Slices, Decorated with Green Sugar Shamrocks
Or Pistachio Ice Cream
Small Cakes, Decorated with Harps of Gold Candles
Coffee Buttermilk

For favors have a tiny basket of oxalis at each plate. It looks much like real shamrock and most florists have it at this season.

St. Patrick's Day Vegetarian Luncheon Menu

Spinach Soup
Green Peppers Stuffed with Bread Crumbs and Tomatoes
French Peas
Baked Potatoes in the Half Shells
Olives Pickles
Lettuce and Watercress Salad, French Dressing
Vanilla Ice Cream
(On each slice put a tiny green paper frog)
Cakes Cookies Cut Like Shamrocks

For place cards use tiny pipes with name on stems fastened with a bow of green ribbon. The decorations for the middle of the table consist of a round mirror with tiny frogs on it. Surround the whole with smilax.

Card Party on St. Patrick's Day

All the portieres were taken down and replaced by ones of cheesecloth of unmistakable green. Scarfs of green cheesecloth were carried from windows and doors to the central chandelier. The Irish flag predominated everywhere. Cards were played, the score cards being shamrocks. Refreshments consisted of salad with green mayonnaise, olives, brown and white bread sandwiches, green ice-cream, white cake, green icing and green bonbons. The fork and spoon for each guest were tied with ribbon of emerald hue and the napkin was pinned with a woven silk shamrock. The prizes consisted of a green glass art vase, a volume of poems bound in green, a green pottery jar, a picture framed in green moulding. The hostess wore bows of green in her hair. Among the decorations were roses and hyacinths colored green by the florist. All the electric lights were veiled with green crêpe paper, and palms stood in every available nook.

To Find Partners at a St. Patrick's Party

GET at the favor counter or make as many snakes as there are to be guests. Tie ribbons, two of a kind, around the necks and hide throughout the rooms. Those finding snakes beribboned alike are partners. Another way is to make shamrocks, then cut in two, hiding the halves which are to be put together. Either of these ways has the advantage of mixing the guests up in fine shape so there won't be any lack of a good time. St. Patrick's day parties are always very informal affairs, oftentimes the more impromptu the better.

For St. Patrick's Day in the "'Avenin'"

ISSUE invitations to a luncheon or supper on cards on which the shamrock is painted. If desired, decorate rooms with big bunches of clover or oxalis tied with green ribbon, and use similar green on dining-room table. Place cards may be of any of the quaint conceits of the day, snakes, Irish lads and lassies, frogs, Irish flags. Many can be made by deft and artistic fingers.

After the luncheon or supper let your guests kiss the Blarney stone—moss or lichen covered. Provide tiny books and let each one write a compliment to the hostess. To the most clever give a box of green candied fruit tied with ribbon and shamrock for prize.

A treasured souvenir of the occasion could be made by an artistic friend by copying them into a book, illustrating the quotations with all the Irish emblems, etc. An Irish Jack Horner pie would also add to the amusement and be the closing feature of a delightful entertainment.

Have cream of pea or spinach soup, a roast pig with potato in his mouth, necklace of oxalis; peas in pâtés, creamed "Murphys," chicken salad, mint julep, frozen punch, fancy cakes with green icing, crème de menthe in

tiny glasses of crushed ice, topped with a mint cherry, the glass on its flat glass plate being surrounded with sprays of maidenhair ferns.

Irish Punch

One quart strong infusion green tea, one-fourth cupful apricot brandy, one-half cupful gin, one-half cupful sugar. Mix thoroughly and pour over one quart lemon sherbet. Turn into a freezer and freeze to the mushy stage. Serve in tall glasses and decorate with whipped cream tinted green and a small green flag in each. This is good served at a dancing party in lieu of the usual frappé, or to be passed between games at card parties. The flag to be worn in the hair or buttonhole.

Living Pictures on St. Patrick's Day

For a club entertainment it is charming to give a series of living pictures arranged from the titles of old Irish songs. While the picture is being shown, have someone concealed to read or sing a verse or two. I give a few suggestions; a book of Irish songs will give many more, complete with music and words.

There's a dear little plant that grows in our isle,
'Twas Saint Patrick himself sure that set it,
And the sun on his labor with pleasure did smile,
And with dew from his eye often wet it.
It shines thro' the bog, thro' the brake and the mireland,
And he called it the dear little shamrock of Ireland;
The dear little, sweet little, dear little shamrock of Ireland.

Believe me if all those endearing young charms,
Which I gaze on so fondly today,
Were to fade by tomorrow and fleet in my arms,
Like fairy gifts fading away;
Thou wouldst still be adored.

As this moment thou art;
Let thy loveliness fade as it will,
And around the dear ruin each wish of my heart
Will entwine itself verdantly still.

Colleen Bawn, Colleen Bawn,
From childhood I have known;
I've seen that beauty in the dawn,
Which now so bright has grown.

Young Rory O'Moore courted Kathleen Bawn;
He was bold as a hawk, she soft as the dawn;
He wished in his heart pretty Kathleen to please,
And he thought the best way to do that was to tease.

Och, girls dear, did you ever hear
I wrote my love a letter,
And although he cannot read
I thought 'twas all the better,
For why should he be puzzled with
Hard spellin' in the matter,
When the manin' was so plain
That I love him faithfully?

Far renowned for larnin' and piety,
Still I'd advance ye widout impropriety,
Father O'Flynn as the flower of them all.
Here's a health to you, Father O'Flynn,
Slainte and slainte and slainte agin,
Pow'rfulest preacher and tenderest teacher
And kindliest creature in ould Donegal.

When first I saw sweet Peggy,
'Twas on a market day;
A low back'd car she drove and sat
Upon a truss of hay.

Other songs suitable for picture poses are "The Kerry Dance," "The Fine Old Irish Gentleman," "The Exile of Erin," "Kitty Tyrell" and "Kitty of Coleraine." In the room where refreshments are served try to make it as

much as possible like an Irish cottage. There should be a perfectly bare floor, an unpainted table, plain wooden chairs, heavy white china and as much pewter as may be obtained. Have mugs to drink from. Have an old woman with a shawl over her head knitting lace, and those who serve should have on plain dark gowns of calico with white neckerchiefs and aprons, with knitting sticking in their belts.

Toasts and Sentiments for March Seventeenth

A triple grass
Shoots up, with dewdrops streaming,
As softly green
As emerald seen
Through purest crystal gleaming.
Oh, the Shamrock, the green, the immortal Shamrock,
Chosen leaf
Of bard and chief,
Old Erin's native Shamrock!

—*Thomas Moore.*

If I remember correctly, these toasts or sentiments are all by A. R. Harrison:

It's the little things in life, boys,
That count for most that's best;
And by the same small token,
They leave us most distressed;
It's the little things that harden,
The little things that cheer,
So let us drink, live, laugh and love
The little while we're here.

Here's to the toast of all nations,
And here's to the toast of all toasts;
Here's to the best in creation,
And here's to the toast that we roast.
There's one me heart would be addin',
A toast of exquisite delight—
To our guests, who come here to gladden
And help us make merry to-night.

Come fill
While you will
All the bumpers again;
Send mirth
While it's worth
Round the table;
Let's drink
While we think
Of some pleasant refrain
For to-morrow
Begorra,
We may not be able.

Toast America's golden rod,
Toast England's rose so rare,
Toast Scotland's drowny thistle,
And France's lily fair.
They all deserve our praises
And our blessings, too, I ween,
But give to me this bit of grass
From that little Isle so green.

Oh Paddy dear!
You're surely here;
Your colors gay adorning;
Heart gay and light
As Banshee bright;
To you—the top of the morning!

Here's to the blarney that never was meant
To wound, malign or assail you;
Here's to the chaff like sweet balm it is sent
To cheer when sorrows bewail you;
Here's to that blarney beneath a kind heart
That ever stands ready and glad
To help a weak brother take on a new start
When his soul feels lonely and sad.

Here's to you, my Irish lasses!
To your loyal hearts so true;
May you often cause our glasses
To be tipped in praise of you.

St. Patrick was a temperance lad,
Who hailed from Dublin town;
By chasing snakes from Ireland
This good saint did win renown.
But faith, 'tis different nowadays
Here 'neath the stripes and stars,
The man caught chasing snakes, begor,
Will land behind the bars.

Mothering Sunday

LENT brings a day that I wish every one would celebrate, regardless of creed or sex. It is the fourth Sunday, known as "Mothering" Sunday by all those who remember old customs and are strict Churchmen. Perhaps I should not say that either, for the modern church calendars name this only as mid-Lent; but in days gone by in England this day was especially set apart to do honor to one's mother. It was a feast to her, conducted and celebrated by her children, those who were married including their husbands and wives, but there were no other guests. There was a sumptuous dinner, with special dishes known to be among mother's favorites; there were gifts; family matters were discussed with all possible freedom. Those who could not be present sent letters to be read; in fact, it was a dear, old-fashioned family gathering. The head of the house was not forgotten, but made the recipient of a bottle of rare wine, or some special delicacy.

Back as far as the days of Queen Bess this day was celebrated, as the records show a recipe for Simnel cakes, which were always served at mothering-Sunday feasts. They resembled rich fruit cakes, with nuts in the icing, which was made yellow with saffron.

Now we can all plan individually the best way for us to observe this day. Every one of us can send a special

letter, if unable to be with the dear mother. Most of us know some special thing that would be luxury; and I, for one, want to make this suggestion: that next year we have a special little box set aside for Mothering Sunday, for I know of no greater pleasure or joy than honoring the dear soul whom we call mother. If we are so unfortunate as to be without a very own mother, let us make a feast for some one's mother. If I dared mention names (and most of you would recognize it if I did) I would like to tell you of a girl who is quietly making a Mothering Sunday out of every Lord's day by cheerfully taking her busy little self to an institution known as the Old Ladies' Home, and she gives them a royal good time, such as women sorely miss who are without a home circle of their very own.

Eggs for Lent

It is much in favor this season to serve a poached egg on a crisp round of toast at afternoon teas. Along with many other ideas, we have borrowed this from our English cousins.

A chafing dish or alcohol burner may be used by the hostess in the drawing room, or the eggs may be served by the maid from the kitchen. Of course, each one must be individually prepared, and the toast be very hot and well buttered. A bit of watercress or parsley makes a dainty garnish, and some people like an olive or a salted nut on the plate as a relish.

Lenten Sewing and Luncheon Club

Eight young matrons formed themselves into what they were pleased to call the "Frugal Luncheon Club." They met during Lent to sew for a children's hospital. They began at eleven and stopped at five o'clock. The hostess furnished a three-course luncheon, the menu

itemized to the smallest detail. The one who served the cheapest luncheon was the guest of the other seven at some sort of a function given during Easter week.

Each member also brought all the pennies that she had obtained during the week, and they were dropped into a quaint little bank which was opened on Good Friday, the contents going toward an Easter treat for the little inmates of the hospital.

For Lenten Pastimes

In so-called "society" social functions assume a simpler character during Lent; many overworked matrons who live in a grand whirl of dinners, balls, and teas form circles to sew for the poor, and really a surprising quantity of work is turned out for the benefit of charities and friendly aid all over the country.

A coterie of young matrons formed themselves into what they called the "Doll Brigade," they were each pledged to dress five dolls during Lent with clothes that would come off.

Then an interested set of young men promised to provide each doll with a trunk and on the next Christmas these self-same dollies went to a certain ward in a large city hospital that bears the placard "Incurable."

Perhaps we all do not keep Lent, but surely any season of the year that causes this sometimes apparently selfish world to stop and think how best to help others is a good thing.

A Lenten Idea

A ladies' aid society has evolved the following scheme for us during Lent. Annually it has been the custom for many years to hold a bazar during Easter week. The soliciting of articles heretofore has been a rather formidable task. This year a basket in hamper form will

make the rounds of hotels and boarding houses, besides going to the homes of the society members. There is a large card attached, with words to the effect that any article suitable for the Easter sale may be placed therein. The basket remains a day, two days or a week, according to the number of people in the house. Then it is called for and the contents given to the general chairman to be cared for until the various committees sort the articles for the respective booths. In this way many things are secured from the "stranger within the gates"; for many towns, at this season, are full of tourists.

Rest Cure Party

THIS Lenten party, given from three to six for eight girls, proved such a success that I am sure there will be many more. It certainly was an innovation and came about by one of the girls saying she was so tired out, so weary of formal function, so bored by being a debutante that she wished for something different. The something different came in the form of a wee note which said: "Come to My Rest Cure Party." There was not an absent guest, I assure you. They found the great drawing-room with shades nearly drawn, a log fire, couches with piles of pillows and afghans. When all had arrived the hostess said no one was to talk until moved to do so, then only in the lowest voice. Quite mystified, the girls found places and a maid noiselessly passed piping hot bouillon and crisp wafers; then from the next room a low sweet voice to a guitar accompaniment sang a series of lullabies; then the same voice read several delightful stories in a low, distinct tone. The person was concealed by a screen. Then there was simply nothing doing for fifteen minutes, each girl being told to close her eyes and tell at the end of that time her

vision. This took another half hour, when a tray of fragrant tea and delicious sandwiches were served with candied ginger. After that, having sufficiently rested, tongues buzzed at a merry rate and the girls pronounced it a fine party.

Card Party Refreshments

In Lent cards are not put away except by some especially devout penitent who is a devotee and wishes to make a real sacrifice. In fact, during this season card parties are the means of raising large sums of money for charity and Easter offerings, inasmuch as many bridge and euchre clubs deny themselves the prizes and vote the money to church and pet charities. The suggestions given are not difficult to carry out. There should always be a sweet and substantial course if served at a morning party, as these refreshments often take the place of a luncheon. The hours are from ten to twelve. These morning affairs are much in vogue in the South, many of the parties being held on the broad porches. The guests wear wash frocks and look very attractive flitting about with gay sunshades.

For the first course have creamed oysters or lobster, with sandwiches of brown bread, filled with creamed cheese and chopped olives; stuffed eggs, with mayonnaise dressing and thin bits of breast of chicken laid on top; hot biscuits, scalloped crab-meat in ramekins, small Parker house rolls, grape fruit salad with white grapes. For sweets, try orange jelly in orange shells, capped with whipped cream; a fruit mixture chilled, served in tall glasses, with a spoonful of lemon ice on top; individual chocolate gelatines, with whipped cream. A vegetable salad in fancy cases with tiny tarts of lemon or vanilla cream capped with a thick meringue is another good combination. Coffee demitasse is usually served

last. It is an acceptable custom to serve an iced drink during the game.

"Mad March Hare" Party

With "Alice in Wonderland" in mind, a hostess planned this party, founding it on the "Hatter and the Dormouse," "who were forever drinking tea." This tempestuous month is the time to give this clever party.

It was a luncheon and a dozen guests were bidden. When they entered the dining-room the windows were open, the curtains flying about, chairs were overturned, pictures were awry and apparently "chaos" was the only word to describe the scene. On the table there was a large brown rabbit standing on his haunches, one ear turned back and wisps of straw clinging to his fur. In the very centre of the table was a large straw hat, the "Hatter," evidently; it was filled with a lot of spring blossoms and vines placed, as artists say, "with studied carelessness." A little chocolate mouse peeping out of the hat represented the "Dormouse." There were silver, china, tumblers, dishes of olives and bonbons on the table, and order was soon restored. Just as every one thought there was nothing more "mad" about the affair the hostess said: "Please change places with your right-hand neighbor." Then she gave each one a yellow pad to which there was a pencil attached, and asked that a drawing be made of a March street scene. Only four strokes were to be made. Then at the next course, when seats were changed again, four more strokes were to be made by the guest who took the place. When the dessert was served each guest kept the pad and finished the sketch and signed her name. Then these "mad" productions were pinned up on the wall for inspection. A copy of "Alice in Wonderland" was given to the one whose picture received the most votes.

A Chafing Dish Party

The well-known lines from Bryant's poem called "March" headed the invitation which bade eight chosen friends to a revel conducted by "The Mad March Hares."

> The stormy March is come at last,
> With winds, and clouds and changing skies;
> I hear the rushing of the blast
> That through the snowy valley flies.

It was a cheery sight indeed to see the attractive table, with eight saucy brown hares made by the fingers of the clever hostess from cardboard, one standing erect at each place. Appropriate, too, was the color scheme of brown and green with jonquils.

At the ends of the table were chafing dishes presided over by the hostess and her sister. First in bouillon cups rabbit broth was served, then "little pigs in blankets," which were plump oysters *sautéd* in thin strips of bacon; corn muffins appeared at just the right moment from the kitchen and the *pièce de résistance* was Welsh rabbit. Coffee was served with cheese and toasted crackers. There was no sweet course; olives and salted nuts, with crisp morsels of celery, were on the table.

For luck there were rabbit feet, every one warranted to be the left hind foot of a Jack rabbit caught on the thirteenth day, in the dark of the moon.

Every one had a glorious time, and the saying, "Mad as a March hare," was a misnomer on this occasion.

CHAPTER IV.—PASTIMES FOR APRIL

An April-First Feast

Hot Chocolate.
Stuffed Eggs. Baked Potatoes.
Pudding. Cup Cakes.
Bouchées of Jelly and Cream.
Bonbons. Lady Fingers.
Boiled Eggs. Sandwiches. Meat and Vegetables.
Bouillon.

THE menu cards were clever conceits of red cardboard decorated with a saucy court jester done in red, gold, and black. Each guest was supplied with a red and white fool's cap of crêpe paper on entering the dining-room. This repast was not difficult to serve and created lots of fun.

"Hot chocolate" was chicken bouillon tinted brown with a bit of vegetable coloring procured at the drug store. It was brought on in chocolate cups topped with a spoonful of whipped cream. The "stuffed eggs" were egg-shaped croquettes of sweetbreads and potatoes, cooked to a delicate golden brown, almost yellow. A delicious entrée of mushrooms came on in the disguise of baked potato shells, the halves neatly joined by toothpicks.

A silver pudding dish was next brought in covered with a meringue on top, accompanied by a silver cake basket in which were cup cakes. The pudding was a hot veal loaf and the meringue was salted and seasoned with onion juice and celery salt. Cup cakes were biscuits baked in patty pans, the centres scooped out and filled

with asparagus tips, the tops being fitted on and all browned in the oven just before serving.

For the salad there was tomato jelly moulded in small cups, a dab of mayonnaise placed on it, and on top of it a bit of whipped cream. Dainty wafers were passed, which had been baked in lady finger pans; they were buttered, put together and heated. The bonbons were squares of cheese wrapped in silver and gilt paper taken from chocolate bonbons.

The "boiled eggs" proved to be most delectable ices egg-shaped and eaten from egg cups. Sandwiches were made of white cake spread with various fruit fillings and cut in shape with cooky cutters. From a candy-shop the hostess obtained the place favors, which were little plates of egg cups. The bonbons were made of almond paste, and after-dinner coffee was in bouillon cups with sugar in the salt cellars.

An April Fool Party

The first day of April offers an opportunity for the up-to-date hostess to provide something out of the ordinary for the entertainment of her guests. It is needless to say that such an evening will be full of surprises. Decorate the invitations with a water-color or pen-and-ink sketch of a court jester, and request each guest to relate the most "fool" thing he ever did or heard of. When the guests arrive have the house all dark, curtains drawn, and very little light visible when the door is opened. Instruct the maid to say: "Not at home." This, however, is only for a moment, when she changes her mind and asks the astonished guests in.

Offer a prize for the best "fool" story. When awarded, the box or package will contain nothing, but the real prize will be found elsewhere later on, in the napkin at the table, for instance. The one who declines to tell

any story, or the worst one, gets his prize at once. To choose partners for supper, take ribbons three-quarters of an inch long and shut between the folding doors, the men on one side, girls on the other. Each holds a ribbon, and when the door is opened the ones holding the same ribbon are partners.

The menu is devilled crabs, baked potatoes, asparagus, tomato salad, ice cream, coffee and cake. For the "bouillon" have creamed celery in old-fashioned soup plates. "Baked potatoes" may be mashed turnips, carrots, and peas in baked potato shells, covered with grated cheese and browned in the oven. These are delicious. For the "asparagus" have large macaroni laid on toast, with cream sauce. "Tomato salad" may be a mixture of blood orange, celery and nuts served in cucumber boats. The "ice cream" may be old-fashioned custard frozen. Puff pastry filled with mince meat will be the "cake," and will delight the men. "Coffee" may be one of the cereal preparations, but the real thing should be provided for those who wish it. Pass cigars and cigarettes of chocolate. Tiny wands wound with ribbon, the end of each one bearing a bell, make charming souvenirs; and place cards can be cut in shape of a dunce or fool's cap.

An April-First Party

A YOUNG girl having a birthday on the first of April devised and carried out this pretty party in a most successful manner. The invitations were issued on foolscap paper, asking each girl to come dressed as a "fool," the costumes to be made of cotton material and crêpe paper, so the expense would not be great, but just as much fun. Red and green, the jester's colors, were carried out in every detail as far as possible. On the red candle shades funny little donkey heads were outlined

in green. The ices were served in the dearest little green paper cabbage heads and the fruits proved to be excellent imitations in the real fruit shapes and colors, only they were candy boxes, and the supposed chocolate éclairs were filled with creamed chicken. A delicious cream sauce was passed to put over them. There were all sorts of amusing games, such as marbles for the girls and a doll dressing contest for the boys, a whistling contest for the girls and a sewing contest for the boys, all having simple prizes for the best. There were clowns and jesters. The children said "it was the best party ever" and so the mother who planned the affair was amply repaid for her trouble. Here is a list of names of real clowns and jesters who once existed: Archie Armstrong, the famous jester of King James I; Chicot, the jester whom Dumas has immortalized in his novels; Triboulet and Brusquet, jester of King Francis I of France; John Heywood, the jester of Henry VIII; Scrogan, the jester of King Edward IV; Patrick Bonny, who attended Regent Morton of Scotland. Other characters in fiction are the "Green Son" of the Vicar of Wakefield, called Moses; the "Mad Hatter," from "Alice in Wonderland"; the "Three Wise Men of Gotham," "Don Quixote," "Sancho Panza," "Simple Simon," etc.

Hot Cross Buns

Hot cross buns to serve on Good Friday are found in all Roman Catholic countries and in most Protestant ones. We all know from our knowledge of Mother Goose the old nursery rhyme of:

Hot cross buns! Hot cross buns!
One a penny; two a penny!
Hot cross buns!

It is still a cry to be heard in London on the streets during Good Friday.

While most bakeshops make and take orders for these rolls, perhaps many readers will be grateful for this rule, as I was:

One quart of sifted flour, three cups of sweet milk, one cake of compressed yeast dissolved in a cup of lukewarm water. Beat into batter and let rise in a warm corner for six or eight hours, when it should be double in bulk. Beat hard, adding four large tablespoons of melted butter, a generous pinch of nutmeg (grated) and a small spoonful of salt. Take one cup of flour sifted three times, with an even teaspoonful of soda. Add and knead for ten minutes. The dough should be just soft enough to handle. Let it rise again to double its bulk, which should be in four or five hours. Turn out on the board, roll to a half-inch in thickness, cut with large biscuit cutter, place in pans for last rising; when high and light cut a deep cross in centre with a sharp knife. Bake covered for twenty minutes, then brown. While hot brush with beaten white of egg and powdered sugar. Eat while warm.

Easter Legends

THE legend of the Easter rabbit is one of the most ancient in mythological lore and is closely related to the folk tales of southern Germany.

In the beginning of things, it seems, the rabbit was a bird. As a great favor the goddess Eastre, who was the patron of spring, gave it four legs, for which the rabbit was deeply grateful. In remembrance of its former life as a bird, when the spring or Easter season comes, it lays eggs of gorgeous colors; and the egg has always been a symbol of the resurrection, and therefore used at Easter time, when we look for the life everlasting and all things made new.

It is a German custom for children to go to their god-

mothers at Easter for the gift of colored eggs and a baked rabbit. Just before Easter the children are sent to the garden to build a nest for the expected rabbit, and early Easter morning they go with great expectations, and are never disappointed, to get the eggs which the rabbit has laid for them. Even in Africa, among the heathen tribes, worship of the egg is common. No altar is complete without its egg decoration, and most huts have at least one sacred egg. On all the eggs devoted to the rites worship a verse from the Koran is written at each end, while the sides are ornamented with scenes from the Nile.

A rare specimen of these eggs is to be seen in the Detroit Museum of Art. The etchings on the shell follow closely the same general design as the paintings of men and women that were recently found in Cairo.

In Easter Land

DAWN—it is in the Easter land!
Far have our caravans come, and we
Here at the edge of the desert stand,
Looking away to the joys to be,
Aye, it is dawn, and we've journeyed far
Led by the glow of the Easter star.

Who at the gates of the Easter land
Bid us good morning, and lead us in?
Children, a world of them, hand in hand,
Palms and processions of lily kin,
Enter! Oh, sad was the march, and long—
Join in the triumphs of Easter song.

All is forgotten on Easter day—
Shadows and fears of the wintry path.
Here at the end of a troubled way
Fragrant the welcomes the Easter hath,
This is the haven the pilgrims scanned,
Dawn—it is dawn in the Easter land.

The Celebration of Easter

The celebration of Easter is almost as universal as Christmas, and how children love it! All the symbols are so beautiful; and even the smallest child may be taught the wonderful significance of the resurrection as it comes to us with every return of spring.

There are many charming devices for entertainment to be given during Easter week, but the time-honored egg hunt is best loved by boys and girls. Let me tell of this original way of varying the hunt: Have all kinds of eggs, of candy, china, favor eggs, and the real fruit of the hen, gilded, silvered and colored. Then make a big score card and put up where it may easily be consulted. Place a value on the different eggs, a gold one to count twenty; silver, ten; blue ones, five; candy ones, four; the very smallest, one, etc. Then for very special prize favor eggs fifty will be the score. Give the guests baskets or silk bags for the spoils and have plenty of assistants to help the children add up their eggs correctly, each one to keep what he or she finds; and, besides, have rewards for the best scores. This will add zest to the hunt and take fully an hour. If the weather is fine some of the eggs might be hidden outdoors. The centrepiece for this party may be a huge egg in a nest of tinsel and imitation grass; on cracking the egg it will be found to contain an egg or Easter favor for each guest.

A sport almost as old as Easter itself is what is called a "faire bec" or "egg fight." In olden times this fight took place on Easter Sunday before service. The largest clear space in the village was chosen and the lads assembled from far and near. The game consisted in striking an egg first "point to point" with an opponent, then "butt to butt." The clever boy tried to select a very tough shell egg that would knock the other player's

all to bits. If the egg was not broken point to point, the next play was butt to butt. The victorious egg was called the "cock." Sometimes the "cock" would stand the strain of several successful attacks, and then would be called "the cock" of "three" or "four." In the interval between the lengthy services "faire bec" was resumed. English history tells us that back in the time of Edward I. the custom of rolling eggs on Easter Monday prevailed.

I wonder how many know that the observance of Easter dates back to the year 68. In 1752 the rule was adopted that makes Easter Sunday fall on the first Sunday after the full moon which happens on or next after March 21. If the full moon happens on Sunday, Easter is the next Sunday after.

Hoop Race for Easter

A MOTHER of three dear children entertained at an all day Easter Monday party, the guests being seven of the neighborhood children. The invitations were written on egg-shaped cards sealed with a violet paster, or the dearest Easter chick just coming out of the shell may be found among the seals or pasters, as the children call them. The ages of the guests ranged from five to eight years. A third floor chamber is known as the children's room, and it was prettily decorated with flowers and branches of budding fruit trees which had been placed in water for several days; there was a mass of blossoms on them by Easter. Ten little hoops were prepared thus, for one of the games, each one was wound smoothly with a colored tape. The boy who could roll his hoop twice around the room without letting it turn over was awarded a bag of marbles, and the little girl who accomplished the same feat had a dear little doll baby dressed all in white. A substantial luncheon was served at noon with just the prettiest table imaginable, all glorious

jonquils, bunnies, and fluffy yellow chicks. A music box played during the repast. After luncheon the children decorated eggs to take home; and then the last game was best of all. On a white cloth was pasted the head of a beautiful child; the children were blindfolded and told to pin a paper flower on the head of the child. A prize was given for the one who best placed the flower.

Easter Hat Sale

A CLEVER hostess evolved this unique affair given on Easter Monday. There were twenty-four guests, and the invitations read something like this:

"You are bidden to a sale of headgear at the residence of Mr. and Mrs. Blank on the eve of Easter Monday. Please send or bring a hat, bonnet, cap or any form of head covering, either trimmed or untrimmed. This will be the great opportunity of a lifetime to obtain an original headpiece."

And such a variety of parcels, bandboxes, bags and parcels as we found when all had assembled in the spacious living-room! The host, a jolly, quick-witted man, acted in the capacity of auctioneer. The guests were provided with tiny candy Easter eggs in little silken bags to use for money, and the bidding waxed fast and furious. Those who drew untrimmed hats had to trim them, making their selections from a table piled high with a conglomeration of feathers, flowers, ribbons and velvets. The hats were something wonderful to behold—Quaker bonnets, sunbonnets, baby bonnets, old Derbys, straw sailors, discarded mushrooms, silken hats of vintage of 1873, and a lot of queer shapes and styles, so curious that we all exclaimed: "Did we ever wear such things?" The ice cream was moulded in the shape of hats and the strawberries were served in cunning baskets fashioned from dolls' straw hats. This was such

a merry, informal affair that I am sure many of the department readers will enjoy giving just such a party. Be sure to ask thoroughly congenial people, who will enter into the spirit of the thing and respond heartily. A prize might be offered for the most artistically trimmed hat, choosing for the reward one of the many Easter novelties. Charming hats of crêpe paper could be made for souvenirs, distributed to all just before refreshments are served.

Easter Sandwiches

Try these for sandwiches during Easter week: Use thin slices of either white or whole wheat bread; butter and spread with this filling—two hard-boiled eggs, one-eighth of a teaspoonful of salt, one teaspoonful of paprika. Mash the egg yolks smooth, mix in the salt, paprika and butter. Spread the bread with butter, then with the yolk mixture, then with the egg whites chopped fine. Stamp out with an oval cutter. On each one stand a wee yellow chick, the kind that comes about a cent apiece or even less. Make a circle of cress or parsley around a plate and pile the sandwiches in the middle.

Easter Egg Hunt

No Easter-tide is complete for the children without an egg hunt. If the weather permits this should be out of doors. Hide eggs of all sizes and colors, hard-boiled, and candy ones, in every conceivable place. If the party is a large one there should be four prizes, one to the child getting the golden egg (gilded), one for finding the silver egg, one for finding the most and one for the child who finds the egg marked "third prize." The prizes should be some of the many Easter novelties, or candy boxes filled with candy eggs. A pot of jonquils or hyacinths is a suitable prize if the winner is

about eight or ten years old. Serve ice cream, rabbit-shaped cookies and bonbons. There is a very old game called "egg pick" that the children should play after the hunt. Use only hard-boiled eggs. A child who strikes out with his egg at one held by another child and whose egg breaks or cracks first wins the other egg. If there is a hill conveniently placed, or even a slight slant to the ground, there may be an egg-rolling on a small scale such as the children had in Washington at the White House for many years.

The Butterfly Motive

A PRETTY and symbolic conceit is to use butterfly candle shades and place cards for an affair given in Easter week. These may be home made or purchased. A "shower" of butterflies over the table is lovely. They may be made of white paper touched with gilt if the white and gold scheme is to be carried out.

An Easter Lily Table

A LOVELY lily table arranged for an Easter bride's farewell luncheon was done in this way; the stalks of lilies were placed so that the stems all went toward the center, making a lovely circle of white blossoms quite far around the table. Right in the very center of the table was a mound of the same lilies made rather low, so that the decorations did not interfere with the guests seeing one another. The candles of white in silver holders with white silk shades over delicate green completed a lovely scheme. The place cards represented a bride and bridegroom, she with her bouquet of Easter lilies; the nut-holders were daintily shaped boxes made exactly like real hats, the colors being green and white.

For an Easter Table

From wire make a half an egg in shape (or get a florist to do it), cover with ferns and moss and stud with small flowers. Fill it with small bouquets, violets would be lovely; to each bouquet attach a ribbon and run to the place plate where it may be tied to a card bearing the name of the guest. As yellow and white are the Easter colors, this scheme would be effective carried out with yellow ribbons, jonquils and white cards. At a party for children buy a large egg that divides in the middle, fill with tiny, fluffy yellow chickens; suspend over the table or in a doorway, when the ribbons that tie the egg together are pulled the chicks will fall in a golden shower one for each little guest.

A Motto for Easter

If you and I—just you and I—
Should laugh instead of worry;
If we should grow—just you and I—
Kinder and sweeter hearted,
Perhaps in some near by and by
A good time might get started;
Then what a happy world 'twould be
For you and me—for you and me.

Announcing an Easter Engagement

An engagement announced on Easter Monday was done in this way: In the centre of the table was a mound of velvety green moss on which a rustic brown basket stood filled with eight large goose eggs; over all was a network of jonquils and narcissi. Each egg bore the name of a guest and within lay concealed the bride-elect's gift to her would-be maids, exquisite veil pins, each with a cleverly worded note asking them to act in the capacity of maids and matrons.

An Egg Social

SOME one has said that "the pomps and vanities of this wicked world receive a terrific drubbing during Lent, but, with Easter day their recovery is quick and certain." Be this as it may, an egg social is a fine scheme for the week after Easter.

Write the following invitations on egg-shaped cards, varying the wording to suit the occasion: "An eggs-ellent plan has been adopted by (name of society) to eggs-haust the eggs-pense of (whatever object the social is given for). We shall hold an egg social on (whatever date it is to be given on), to which the eggs-pense of admission is eggs-actly 10 cents. We shall have an eggs-ellent time. Please eggs-ert yourself to come and eggs-amine the novelties prepared. No one will be eggs-cused. You may eggs-pect much joy at small eggs-pense. An eggs-ellent committee will wait upon you and eggs will be served. Make your eggs-it at your pleasure." Have rosettes of yellow and white ribbon for those who serve on the reception committee and use the same colors in decorating the room. Serve egg sandwiches, cold veal loaf garnished with rings of hard-boiled eggs, baked cup custards, candy eggs and egg-shaped cookies.

An Easter Tree

THIS novel device was thought of by a mother whose children were continually demanding something new. There was a merry little Easter party. Suddenly the doors were opened into the dining-room, disclosing a tree on the centre of the table with a pert bunny on the top. Then all over the branches were chickens, ducks and bunnies, both brown and cotton-tails. There was a nest of eggs at each plate and in the egg hunt which preceded the feast the prizes were "Peter Rabbit" and "Mr. Benjamin Bunny." The name cards were charming Easter

postals with the child's name on the address side. The children were perfectly delighted with this party, and the mother kept the tree a surprise even from her own children.

For "Primrose" Day

The nineteenth of April is Primrose Day. It does not mean as much to us as to our English cousins, who loyally wear a primrose on that day in remembrance of Disraeli (Lord Beaconsfield), who died on that date.

For a dinner or luncheon planned for the nineteenth it is a suggestion to use everywhere—centrepiece and room decorations—these charming flowers which come in all colors and are very plentiful as well as cheap at the florists'. A potted primrose of the double variety would make an acceptable prize at bridge or any other game at which the hostess wishes to give a reward of merit.

For favors the little jardinières of porcelain, which I think are imported from Paris, would be lovely, each containing a wee primrose plant; the place card could be tied to the handle. I am sure these ideas may be easily adapted to any functions on this date. They give the requisite touch of something "different," which seems to be so necessary to the peace of our up-to-date hostesses.

An English Tea

The twenty-third of April is St. George's Day and a loyal Englishwoman is going to use the occasion to give an afternoon tea for which she has sent cards to all on her calling list. A touch of novelty will be the playing and singing of English ballads and "God Save the King" will be played more than once by the stringed instruments, which are to be concealed from the guests by a screen of English flags and palms. Mingled with the

stars and stripes will be the British union jack and the Cross of St. George, and everywhere there are to be roses of all hues. This season's debutantes will take turns at the table, where tea will be poured and piping hot English muffins, made small, will be passed with orange marmalade. There will be tiny sandwiches and preserved ginger.

For Shakespeare's Birthday

THE twenty-third is the date celebrated as the great "Bard of Avon's" natal day, although some authorities contend that he was born on the twenty-sixth. History says that purple and gold were his favorite colors. For a touch of novelty this combination could be used with quotations from his writings on the place cards. Prizes could be some of the many beautiful small books that are made out of his plays or pertaining to him. A charming book is called "The Lovers' Shakespeare," bound in red. It is just the right size to pick up in an idle moment.

Shakespeare Riddles

My first is a good meat, with eggs a good dish;
My second's allow, or permit, if you wish.—HAMLET.

My first is so modest and bashful, withal;
My second's a tuft of your hair, that is all.—SHYLOCK.

My first is the city of Italy's pride;
My second's a vowel, which you mustn't elide.—ROMEO.

My first's a girl's name—to your wits put a file;
My second and third describe her the while,
If she is well bred, understand and has style.—ANTONY.

A name of one syllable here you will see,
A villainous smile, devoid of all glee.—LEAR.

My first you take as a witness before heaven;
My second some take when an inch they are given;
My third is a vowel, just one in seven.—OTHELLO.

It is said that George Washington, even in fun,
Never told at all, in his life, my one;
My two you will find by the sea, I am sure;
My third you will do, be your life e'er so pure.—
LYSANDER.

My first is the name of metals combined
With some other substance, just as they are mined;
My second's the name on that part of the world
Which rose solid and firm when in space it was hurled;
My third is a vowel, which endeth this,
And I am very sure you'll none of it miss.—ORLANDO.

My first it is money, of specie or gold
When "we" is objective, my second behold.—CASSIUS.

My first, you see, is the time of year
When all the leaves and the birds disappear;
My second's a metaphor applied to bread,
Because it supports one's life, it is said.—FALSTAFF.

Invitation to a Shakespeare Club Card Party

A CLUB devoted to Shakespeare as well as cards issued the following invitation which was responded to with alacrity by all the members.

To Mr. and Mrs. Richard Smith—
Greeting:
"Lend thy serious hearing to what I shall unfold."—HAMLET.

"Sir (and lady), you are very welcome to our house.
It must appear in other ways than words,
Therefore, I scant this breathing courtesy."—MERCHANT OF VENICE.

"Say, what abridgment
Have you for this evening?"
—MIDSUMMER NIGHT'S DREAM.

"It will be the pastime passing excellent."—TAMING OF THE SHREW.

"If your love do not persuade you to come,
Let not my letter."—MERCHANT OF VENICE.

Mr. and Mrs. Geo. Brown.
April twenty-first, at eight o'clock.

The prizes were all suggestive of the immortal bard, consisting of a framed sepia print of Shakespeare, a stein with a picture of Falstaff and cup of sack; framed photographs of Stratford-on-Avon scenes, and a charming print of Romeo and Juliet. The hostess called the roll and each member responded by giving a Shakespeare quotation.

A Spring Luncheon

PEOPLE who live in the country are making things pleasant for their city friends by having them out for a week-end or for a day. Delightfully informal luncheons, with tramps through the woods and ravines, make these visits pleasant. Birds and the budding springtime furnish novelties galore, and nature hunt parties are quite the proper caper on the north shore.

A hostess at one of these affairs asked her guests to wear short walking suits with stout shoes. After a couple of hours on a glorious tramp all returned to the house for a bountiful repast, consisting of escalloped creamed chicken, fried sweet potatoes, spaghetti, hot biscuit, tomato salad, strawberries and individual angel food cakes, with coffee served with the meal. The centrepiece consisted of a dozen pink, lavender, and white hepaticas and lacy bay ferns. With tall pinks in shaded candles the effect was lovely. At each place there was a small jardinière filled with the same flowers, which were taken home by the delighted guests.

The candy passed during the afternoon was pink, white, green, and yellow buttercups, and marshmallows

were toasted over the candles at the table. The prize for the most flowers guessed in the contest was packages of flower seeds.

By the way, I wonder how many people know that genuine wild-flower seeds may be purchased, I saw a barren yard around a new house that looked like a bower of beauty last summer, all made by sowing broadcast a lot of wild-flower seeds. They made the place beautiful against the time when the yard could be properly graded and grassed.

CHAPTER V.—PASTIMES FOR MAY

A Dinner for May Day

THIS can be made a delightful occasion. Write the invitations and place each one in a tiny basket, with a flower—and bit of green. Have them delivered by hanging on the doorknob, the messenger ringing the bell to be sure they are received. This revives the old and pretty custom of tying to the doorknob a May basket filled with flowers and perhaps a tiny gift, then hastening out of sight before the door was opened. Of course the most suitable centrepiece is a Maypole or a large gilt basket filled with flowers. To choose partners for any entertainment scheme the hostess may have in mind, make a "tulip bed." Fill a shallow wooden box with sawdust or sand, cover with green crêpe paper and place on a taboret or table. Then make realistic tulips out of crêpe tissue paper if the real ones are not procurable and expense cuts no figure. On the end of each wire stem place the half of some well-known quotation, or the title of some book. When the quotation is made whole, or the author of a book is found, the couples are ready to proceed; the flowers should be pulled first by a lady, then a gentleman. On one of the tulips there will be a crown drawn and the person who "gathers" it will be adorned with a chaplet of flowers, representing the May-day "Queen;" a man should exchange with a lady if he draws the crown. Have some one read Tennyson's "I'm to Be Queen of the May," or "Call Me Early, Mother Dear."

A Milk and Honey Tea

MAY is sometimes called the "bee" month, for the reason that in England clover is at its best at this season and the honey bee makes its choicest honey. This very old saying comes to us from the annals of the past:

A swarm of bees in May
Is worth a load of hay;
A swarm of bees in June
Is worth a silver spoon;
But a swarm of bees in July
Is not worth a fly.

This merry month of May also used to be called in ancient times the "Trimilki" month, for the pastures were so rich that the cows could be milked three times a day.

With these two things in mind a clever hostess sent out her cards for this "milk and honey tea," with the words "informal" and "thimbles" in one corner.

After a jolly hour examining the various bits of needlework displayed by the guests the maid brought in a large tray containing the tea service, which was dainty with pink and white clovers around the sandwich plate that contained piping hot biscuit spread with honey. The tea was sweetened with honey and there were honey cakes and honey candy. For those who liked milk there was a pitcher of the fresh liquid, the cream floating yellow on the top, and a pretty bowl held cracked ice for those who liked it cold.

There were little bee-decorated place cards for souvenirs with this sentiment on the one in whose honor the tea was given:

Sweeter also than honey and the honeycomb.

An Apple-Blossom Luncheon

ON apple-blossomed cards the invitations for a May luncheon were sent out. It was an informal affair, but

very dainty. The hostess was fortunate to live in a suburb where fruit trees were plentiful, and recognized the fact that nothing is so appropriate as what the season and nature provide. She made her house into a dream of beauty by banking mantels, filling fireplaces, umbrella jars and other large receptacles with masses of pink and white blooms.

On arrival the guests were refreshed with grape juice and wafers and then repaired to the dining-room lighted by alternate pink and white candles to partake of this tempting luncheon: Celery soup, crown roast of lamb, new peas and potatoes, hot rolls, tomatoes stuffed with sweetbreads, capped by mayonnaise; for dessert, maple mousse in white boxes with a spray of apple blossoms on the top; small pink and white iced cakes. The day was warm and coffee was served on the flower-trimmed porch; afterwards a walk was taken in the near-by woods. This is a gentle hint to suburban people to entertain their city friends during this glorious month, when Mother Nature is waiting to receive her children in all the radiance of her pristine spring glory.

For May First

CHILDREN eagerly welcome any innovation from the commonplace, so let them share in the preparations for May Day. It makes them happier and in consequence better. If it is too cold to have outdoor fêtes, the spirit and letter of the law may be carried out indoors. Most charming May baskets can be made by braiding crêpe tissue paper, then sewing it together; alternating strips of white and green work up effectively. A handle is braided and sewed on, and the receptacle filled with flowers. Covers for potted plant and earthen fern dishes are made in the same manner and add much to the beauty and attractiveness of these gifts.

There has been a delightful revival of many old-time dances which were given on the greensward, among them the Morris dance, which is still danced in Warwickshire. May Day meant in England all sorts of pleasant plays and dances which were indulged in by both old and young. This Morris dance had a gay jingling of bells and a clashing of staves and swords. It was supposed to have been named from the Moors and several certain characters always participated—a fool, a piper, Maid Marian and a hobby horse. There is an old saying that the hobby horse was really the "king" of the May.

A dance around the May pole is one of the prettiest sights imaginable. Instead of ribbon use streamers of tarlatan. Each child should have a crown of real or artificial flowers, the little queen to have a gilt circlet besides. A flower hunt is a good stunt, hiding the blossoms in all sorts of places, providing little baskets to contain the spoils. In a sand pile each may take his turn in laying out a garden, dividing off the beds with shells and pretty stones, the best design to receive a prize of a package of flower seeds. At this May Day party, plan for all sorts of races, with a time-keeper and a judge, all the prizes to be flowers in pots or single blossoms. The ice cream should be served in little pottery flower pots, small size, lined with waxed paper. Plant a flower in each pot, one of the straight, stiff-stemmed variety, like tulips or jonquils. Sprinkle chocolate over the top to look like earth. The children will be delighted with this method of serving.

For Memorial Day

THE thirtieth, brings the last special day in the month's calendar, and the shopkeepers have provided many patriotic reminders of this, our saddest memory day. We are all reminded forcefully each year of the fact that

our "Grand Army" is becoming pitifully reduced in ranks and we owe a debt of gratitude to the gray and grizzled veterans who gave themselves to preserve the Union. This is not a time for hilarity, but for a sacred reverence. We may all do something to show our appreciation, even if it is only to pause and bow our heads or lift our hats when we see the soldiers pass on their way to lay fresh garlands on their comrades who are silently sleeping in the great bivouacs of the dead. If we are still privileged to have a "Grand Army" man within our family circle, let us decorate the table with flags and ask a few friends in to sing the good old war songs and listen to the thrilling stories that veterans can tell. Nothing in print is more interesting than these tales. Let us join in "The Blue and the Gray" and say a prayer while our hearts ache over "The Vacant Chair." I am sure a splendid entertainment may be arranged with the soldiers of '61 our honored guests.

A May Day Luncheon

The first day of May is a holiday much looked forward to by our cousins over the water. In England it is a most festive occasion, with the outdoor dance around the May pole and all sorts of games and races on the green, in which old and young participate.

The filling of May baskets with wild flowers, hanging them on the doorknob, ringing the bell and running away is a custom told in song and story. It is an opportunity of giving gifts of flowers and concealing something more substantial in the basket.

For the luncheon described the hostess had a May pole nearly three feet tall in the centre of the table. It stood in a block of wood concealed by a mound of flowers and ferns. An embroidery hoop wound with ribbon was on top, from which rainbow-colored ribbons ran to each

plate, where they were fastened to small baskets of violets with the name card tied to the handle.

The following menu was served: A chilled fruit mixture in tall glasses topped by a spoonful of lemon ice, broiled squab on toast, creamed new potatoes with chopped parsley, green peas, tomato salad with cucumbers and cheese straws, individual strawberry shortcakes and coffee.

A Unique Flower Luncheon

THE hostess asked ten guests to come to a luncheon each wearing a flower (either real or artificial) to represent a country. The flowers were all typically spring-like, being daffodils, narcissi and hyacinths. The place cards were original rhymes, in which the name of the flower was not mentioned, but to be guessed. A few specimens follow:

Your sweet face says: "I think of you,"
Your colors are of every hue. (Pansy.)

Blue as the loving sky,
Thine emblem constancy.
(Forget-me-not.)

"I love you! I love you!" your rich color imparts.
Oh, how fondly we nestle you close to our hearts.
(Red rose.)

Though dangerous pleasures you imply,
Your waxlike petals do please the eye.
(Tuberose.)

The countries represented are: United States, goldenrod; England, rose; Ireland, shamrock; France, fleur de lis; Japan, chrysanthemum; Canada, maple leaf; Holland, tulip; Scotland, thistle; Germany, cornflower; Switzerland, edelweiss, etc.

One of the many flower-guessing contests was used as a pastime, the prizes being a copy of "Elizabeth and Her

German Garden," and set of flower-decorated place cards. The centre of the table represented a formal miniature garden.

A Baseball Luncheon

A MOTHER who had two sons in a baseball nine gave this original luncheon, inviting the nine as special guests. The invitations went out on diamond-shaped bits of pink paper and were received with great enthusiasm. The hour was one o'clock, after which there was a practice game for the approaching "big" game which was to decide a championship; so all were told to come in their baseball suits.

The centre of the table was laid out for a game with miniature figures on a "diamond" made from green paper; a wire mask held flowers, and the place souvenirs all represented names of famous baseball nines. There were the "cubs," little stuffed "red sox," the "pirates," represented by skull and crossbones; the "tigers," "giants" and "indians." There were also miniature bats and balls, and the nine's mascot, a dog, was not forgotten.

A hearty meal of beefsteak, spaghetti, with tomato sauce, scalloped potatoes, olives, brown and white bread, salted nuts, fruit salad with hot cheese sandwiches, individual apple pies and generous cups of cocoa delighted the youthful guests. Molasses candy and peppermint sticks were the sweets. The boys went off with three cheers and a tiger for the popular mother, and she declared she never had more appreciative guests.

Fruit-Tree Blossom Luncheon

THIS is the month, and the only one, in which these decorations are available. A hostess realizing this is planning to use branches of apple, pear and peach blossoms, making her house one bower of spring beauty.

The wild pink crabapple blossoms she is going to use exclusively in the dining room. A very Japanese effect may be achieved with these blossoms and her idea for this affair is drawn largely from the celebration of the feast of cherry blossoms so lovingly observed by our little brown neighbors across the western sea. Brown wistaria baskets will be used to hold single branches and the tint of the rooms is all soft grays and tans; the result will be truly artistic and pleasing. From these hints I am sure all our readers will want to give May luncheons, and what could be prettier than these decorations for a house or church wedding? The practice of using what is seasonable and at hand is becoming more and more popular, and we do not need to force flowers not in season just because it costs a fortune to get them, but use the blossoms nature provides for each season as it rolls around.

Afternoon Tea

As afternoon tea has become such an established custom on this side of the water, it is well to know something of the origin of tea drinking.

It is needless to say that China claims to have discovered the use of tea as a drink, and there is a very pretty legend connected with it, which is as follows:

Way back in the dim past of that land of ancient history the daughter of a reigning sovereign was desperately in love with a young nobleman, whose caste did not permit him to marry her. At every opportunity they exchanged loving glances, and from time to time he gathered some flowers, sending them secretly to the object of his adoration. One day while strolling through the palace grounds the princess met her lover, and while her attendants were not looking he tried to give her some blossoms he carried, but all she grasped was a small, green-leafed twig.

This she carefully protected, placing it in a goblet of water. She gave it her tenderest devotion and finally, being of a very sentimental nature, she lifted the glass and drank the water. Being impressed with the delicious flavor she ate the twig itself.

The taste pleased her so greatly that in memory of her lover she had tea leaves brought to her each day and she ate them or drank the water. The court ladies observed her custom and whether from sentimental motives or not, they began to follow her example. The result was that tea drinking became prevalent throughout the Chinese empire and employment was thus given to many people. It is claimed that this occurred 3,000 years before the coming of Christ.

An equally pretty legend narrates that the princess, who was suffering with an incurable disease, while walking in the garden with her ladies picked some leaves from the plants which bordered the walks and gave them to her friends to remember her by. Knowing that the leaves would dry and crumble in time the ladies planned to make the gift a part of their very life. They therefore infused the leaves and drank the tea. The custom of infusing the same kind of leaves was maintained long years after the princess had passed away, so that our tea-drinking is really in remembrance of this lovely lady of old.

Tea tables are unusually pretty these days, and no place is quite so satisfactory to show off one's latest table accessories and dainty gowns, no place do my lady's dainty jewelled hands appear to greater advantage, than when presiding at her informal five o'clock tea. This cozy, unconventional hour is becoming popular with the men as well as the fair sex, and those who have been in England come home thoroughly addicted to the tea habit.

Toasted crackers with butter or cheese are much in

favor, as well as the thinnest of sandwiches. One hostess is famous for her hot muffins, another for toast fingers and orange marmalade. Candied orange and lemon peel, also ginger and oyster crackers dipped in melted chocolate, are all delicious to be served in quaint side dishes of glass or silver.

CHAPTER VI.—PASTIMES FOR JUNE

Gifts for Girl Graduates

IN years gone by it was flowers only for the sweet girl graduate, but now, while flowers are still given, they are often used only as the medium of sending some gift of intrinsic value, concealing the parcel among the blossoms or tying it to the bouquet. There are regular books prepared, or they may be made by an artistic friend to contain all the memory notes so dear to girlish hearts, pages for pasting in programmes and samples of frocks, for there are several special gowns that girls seem to think necessary to be graduated properly. There is the frock for the baccalaureate sermon, the senior party frock and the graduating gown, which ranks next in importance to the wedding gown or the debut dress. The class colors, the college yell, spaces for senior pictures, the class day programme, newspaper clippings; all these find a place in the book, and there are probably many other items that the individual will want to put in, so several pages are left blank. For those who may wish to make such a book I append a number of suitable quotations:

For the cover:

A day in June.

For the graduate as a freshman:

An unlesson'd girl, unschool'd, unpractised:
Happy in this, she is not yet so old
But she may learn. —SHAKESPEARE.

A photograph as she looked during a vacation:

The world is so full of a number of things,
I'm sure we should all be as happy as kings.
—Robert Louis Stevenson.

Under a picture of the school:

Still sits the schoolhouse by the road.
—Whittier.

To go under a picture of teachers or pupils:

I count myself in nothing else so happy
As in a soul remembering my good friends.
—Shakespeare.

This under the college president's likeness:

Taught thee each hour one thing or another.
—Shakespeare.

Under class pictures these are appropriate:

A bevy of fair women. Milton.

. . . . companions
That do converse and waste the time together.
Whose souls do bear an equal yoke of love.
—Shakespeare.

For the college colors use this:

Thoughts, master, are masked under such colors.
—Shakespeare.

And this for the college jokes:

A college joke to cure the dumps.
—Dean Swift.

The space reserved for clippings will need this quotation:

Praise me not too much,
Nor blame me, for thou speakest to the Greeks,
Who know me. —Bryant's "Homer's Iliad."

And at the last use this:

Be good, sweet maid, and let who will be clever;
Do noble things, not dream them, all day long.
—Charles Kingsley.

The child is a woman, the book may close over,
For all the lessons are said.
—Jean Ingelow.

Class Party

This affair was held on the lawn and was given by a class president to the members of her graduating class. The hours were from four to eight; thus was included a very charming picnic luncheon or supper. When all had arrived, partners were chosen for tennis and croquet, and each one was presented with a denim pillow in the class colors, which happened to be green and orange. The pillows were made by taking the two colors, sewing them together diagonally across the sides. They made bright spots of color on the greensward and were acceptable souvenirs of a very happy occasion. Then each one had a rosette of the same colors. Refreshments were served at small tables on the porch, which were gay with Chinese lanterns. There were two kinds of cold meat, hot biscuit, potato salad, olives, salted nuts, ice cream and cakes with candy, ginger ale, and coffee for those who wished it. At eight o'clock a hay rack took them to a nearby country club for an informal dance.

Toasts and Sentiments for a Class Banquet

This is an outline used upon the programme of a class who had their farewell dinner before graduation. A good way to use these excellent selections would be to assign them as responses, awarding the subjects to various members of the class.

A Journey

Toastmistress:
Then, pilgrim, turn, thy cares forego
All earth-born cares are wrong;
Man wants but little here below,
Nor wants that little long.

—Goldsmith.

The Preparation—Our Alma Mater:
Where'er I roam, whatever realms I see,
My heart untravell'd fondly turns to thee.
The Beginning—The graduates:
Nature, a mother kind alike to all,
Still grants her bliss at labor's earnest call.
On the Way—The Alumnae:
For just experience tells in every soil,
That those who think must govern those that toil.
A Roadside View—The Prophesy:
Around my fire an evening group to draw,
And tell of all I felt and all I saw.
Our Guide:
But in his duty, prompt at every call,
He watched and wept, he prayed and felt for all.
Destination—Our Married Sisters:
Let school-taught pride dissemble all it can,
These little things are great to little man.

A June Luncheon

In June the flowers are so plentiful that many love to entertain. I want to tell you how a hostess in the country gave a clover luncheon one rare day in this lovely month. The guests were asked to come out from the city in shirtwaist suits and the hostess told them they were to go out and gather clover for her decorations. In fields near the house red, white, and a beautiful variety of pink-tinged clover grew in profusion. Bowls, jars, and small crocks were filled with these fragrant blossoms.

The place cards were decorated with clovers and green four-leafed clovers, and each bore an appropriate quotation, which I give for the benefit of others:

QUOTATIONS

The queen of the year has come,
Hail to thee, June! Sweet mistress mine.
—GODDARD.

Hark! she is here—'tis the rose-faced June
Striking the harp to her merriest tune.
—CAPERN.

Welcome, bright June, and all its smiling hours,
With song of birds and stir of leaves and wings.
—WEBBE.

June, bonnie June, I but love thee the more
That evermore smiling thou sunshine dost bring.
—LEIGH HUNT.

June, brightest of the summer months of flowers.
—BURLEIGH.

With sunny smiles and showery tears
The soft, young June day now appears.
—McLELLAN.

And what is so rare as a day in June?
—LOWELL.

Sweet June, with the fair forehead bound
With dewy wild flowers and with roses crowned.
I love thee well.
—McLELLAN.

Dainty Centrepiece

A HOSTESS living in a delightful country place arranged this unique centrepiece at a luncheon which she gave for some of her city friends. She had an enormous straw hat tied as a basket filled with roses. It was held by a big bow of gauze ribbon. At each place small baskets filled with unhulled strawberries rested on a doily of grape leaves. On the handle was a bow of pink gauze ribbon, with the name card pinned to it with a dainty

imitation coral stick-pin; just one pink rose rested on the handle. It was all very simple, but the rustic effect was lovely.

Luncheon for Girl Graduates

Next to the wedding day there is no more important occasion, perhaps, than the day the bud makes her bow to society, and not all girls do that; most of them, however, are pretty sure to graduate and marry. In this age of elaborate entertainments those for the young woman just leaving the schoolroom have their full quota of elegance. At an affair given for the graduating class of a fashionable school the centrepiece was a silver basket filled with pink moss; instead of a real silver receptacle, a basket gilded or silvered would be equally effective. Candles of pink, with silver shades and place cards cut and tinted in exact rose shades, added much to this *couleur de rose* table. The nut-holders carried out the same idea, for they were tiny pink roses, the paper cases being inclosed in silken rose petals. The ice cream was in shape of pink roses with stem and leaves of green candy. At each place was a long-stemmed rose, to which was tied a small pink bag of satin which contained the graduate hostess's gift to her classmates—lovely amethyst pins. Graduation presents are now uppermost in every one's mind, and belt pins, hat pins, bracelets, and collar pins are all safe purchases set with semiprecious stones, and any girl would be delighted with a bit of real Irish lace in form of stock, collar, cuffs.

Graduate Farewell Luncheon

These are the days shared alike with the sweet girl graduate and the fair June bride. Ofttimes the graduate soon becomes the bride, and it was an occasion like this that originated this pretty luncheon.

The guest of honor was invited to be present on a certain day at the home of the hostess, who was the class president. All excepting the honored guest contributed to the feast.

The quotation used on the place cards was especially apropos. It was Longfellow's beautiful lines:

> Stop, stop, my wheel! Too soon, too soon.
> The noon will be the afternoon,
> Too soon to-day be yesterday.

The toasts were "Our School," "Our Bride-Elect" and "Plain Living and High Thinking." The class gift was a stunning copper desk set, with the bride's monogram done on each piece.

Reunion of College Girls

At a reunion of college girls the hostess planned a "daisy" luncheon which was very pretty. The invitations had water-color daisies scattered over the pale-green note paper and read: "Will you be a link in my 'daisy chain' on (day, date, hour)?"

After wraps were removed the hostess gave each guest a wreath of daisies for her hair. These she had made on very fine wire of real daisies which had been left in water overnight so they kept perfectly fresh for several hours. The table (a round one) had a large mass of daisies in a green bowl for the centrepiece, and from the overhead light to the four corners there was a daisy chain made of smilax and daisies fastened at each corner with bows of yellow and white tulle. The small cakes served with the ice cream were ornamented with frosting daisies with yellow centres; the ice cream was yellow and white. Gold-band china and glass candlesticks with yellow shades completed this exceptionally good-looking table. The place cards were cards with daisies cut out around the edge, hand painted. There was no special entertainment

scheme planned, as the hostess said "the girls had so much to 'reminisce' about they had time to give every one a chance to talk it over." By the way, this set of girls, many of whom are married, have a very nice custom of keeping each others' birthdays. They have a book with all dates in, so if only a card of greeting is sent, the birthday member is sure of at least ten good wishes for "many happy returns of the day."

Omens of the Wedding Day

JUNE—the month allotted to brides and roses—is probably the most popular season of the year, as it brings to many the fulfilment of hearts' desires. It is said—by whom no one seems to know—that if the day chosen by a girl for her wedding proves to be rainy, her life will be filled with more sorrow than joy. Be that as it may, one of the very happiest of marriages was made on Friday, the thirteenth day of the month, and at the hour set for the ceremony there was a most terrific thunderstorm. In spite of the fact that for years Saturday was considered the most unlucky of wedding days, of late it has been chosen by brides of even international fame.

If the carriage containing a bride should meet a funeral procession the driver must be instructed to turn some other way. If he does not, fate decrees that the bride will soon die.

To avoid the possibility of any bad luck on her wedding day, the bride-elect should not offer to assist in washing or wiping the family dishes, for if by chance she should happen to break a bit of china it would be an exceedingly evil omen. The old record does not say what, but it would be prudent not to tempt fate.

Gray is the color a bride should choose for her going-away gown if she wishes to wear what for ages has been considered the proper thing to insure good luck. Perhaps

that is the reason that there is always a steady demand for this color.

Some one gets hold of these old superstitions and customs, and the public thinks it is acquiring something new just because they are so old that everyone has forgotten all about them.

When the cake known as the "groom's cake" is passed at a wedding supper the girl who gets the longest piece will be the first one to marry. Maidens who are anxious to leave the state of single blessedness should consult the head waiter and see that some bits of cake are cut longer than the others.

Fate was certainly kind when she decreed that for a bride to shed tears on her wedding was a good omen, for it would take a pretty stoical young woman to go through the breaking of home ties without a few tears, no matter how alluring the prospect of the new life.

Snow falling on a wedding day augurs well for the happy couple, being a prophecy of great happiness.

For girls who have been asked to set the day it might be well to remember that June 3, 11, 19, and 21 are considered by the fates to be especially propitious on which to have the knot tied.

A Flag Day Party

This is primarily for the children, but a hostess entertaining on the fourteenth may utilize a red, white, and blue color scheme with our beloved Stars and Stripes in evidence among the decorations.

Make the children realize how much the flag means to us, its origin, and let them hang flags everywhere, large and small, and provide wee flags of silk for them to wear; they are not costly. Show them pictures of the flags of other nations; Webster's Dictionary shows them all and sets of foreign flags in an envelope are obtainable

at most department stores. Have a programme of patriotic songs; children love to sing them. Then serve ice cream in little flag-decorated boxes and wee cakes with a flag stuck in the white icing.

A Toast to Our Flag

Flag of the free hearts' hope and home!
By angel hands to valor given;
Thy stars have lit the welkin dome,
And all thy hues are born in heaven.
Forever float that standard true!
Where breathes the foe but falls before us,
To Freedom's soil beneath our feet,
To Freedom's banner streaming o'er us.

—Lena Austin.

Suggestions for Travellers

A lady going to Europe was the recipient of numerous gifts from her family and friends and had several farewell showers given her. On her return she said that a pair of knitted woollen slippers without soles had afforded her inexpressible comfort while on shipboard and on the continent, where fire in her room was often an impossibility. They took scarcely any room in her travelling bag and proved a nightly comfort. Another convenience would be bags made for each pair of shoes, of blue chambray bound with white tape, white bags of linen to hold corsets and a series of eight or ten little pockets to be fastened to the top tray of the steamer trunk. Such "catch-alls" are a great convenience.

This is how a thoughtful mother prepared lunch for two small children: The journey was almost across the continent, and something had to be done to vary the monotony of the dining car. Delicious sandwiches, each separately wrapped in wax paper, salted nuts, a tiny cheese jar filled with jelly, wafers and individual sponge cakes were packed in small boxes and then all were

packed in a papier-maché telescope, which was used exclusively as a lunch box.

In each box there was a "surprise," such as snapping paper caps, paper dolls to be cut, paper puzzles in envelopes, even small toys, mostly in shape of candy boxes, which were filled with peppermints and fruit tablets. There were paper napkins in a variety of shapes and colors, and plenty of them. Lemon juice in a glass bottle provided lemonade, and there were aluminum spoons, a small glass for each child, and squares of waxed paper for holding fruit, thus keeping the little fingers clean. Meal time was a delight, and there were no piece meals indulged in at any "old time." Once in the morning and once in the afternoon they had an apple or orange, and at the end of the journey the children were in perfect physical condition, thanks to the mother's regularity. She certainly had travelling reduced to a science.

The stewardess on an ocean liner told a passenger who was grievously afflicted with *mal-de-mer* that a bit of boiled ham or bacon, or even dried beef, chewed slowly, would settle the stomach, and other food would also be retained after taking the salty morsels. This was tried and proved successful.

A sheet of letter paper placed over the pit of the stomach will often relieve car sickness, so an old experienced traveler says. It is always obtainable and is worth remembering.

When one or more persons are travelling together it is well to make one bundle of canes and umbrellas by fastening with small leather straps of black or tan that come for this purpose. Besides the travelling cups which collapse and fit into cases there are cups of paper that will serve for three or four drinks and can then be thrown away. These are fine for picnics and automobile trips.

A Daisy Table

In many localities daisies grow wild in profusion. A hostess who rejoiced in fields of them used this delightful combination; she made long chains of daisies and smilax, and outlined the places at table, which was set with a cluny lace cloth over pale blue. The candlesticks were of glass, with white candles shaded with white over blue, with a fringe of white beads. The centrepiece was a gilded basket with daisies, the handle tied with a huge bow of white and blue satin ribbon. The guests were all members of an embroidery class, so for favors there were gilded embroidery hoops tied with pale-blue satin ribbon. For place cards there were hand-painted marguerites with the petals cut out, names of the guests being done in gilt.

At each plate was a corsage bouquet of daisies tied with blue ribbon. Everyone exclaimed "How lovely!" when the doors were opened and the pretty table disclosed; the china was white gold band and the effect was so cool and refreshing. A simple summer menu was served, the salad being the only thing characteristic of the decorations. It was made by hard-boiling eggs; cutting the whites lengthwise to make petals, and mashing the well-seasoned yolks to form the round centres of the "daisies" which were carefully formed on the blanched hearts of head lettuce.

A Strawberry Luncheon

June is the season when these luscious berries are in their prime and a luncheon with them for the basis is a very pretty affair. Use a brown rustic basket for the centrepiece, filled with large red berries, vines, and leaves. If possible to obtain, get the real plants. At each place have a white candle with a shade of crushed strawberry color. Serve first five unhulled berries on a leaf-covered plate, with a neat pile of pulverized sugar in the centre.

Instead of plates small baskets are suitable for these berries, standing them on a service plate; the place card may be tied to the handle. Tomato soup comes next, then a salmon croquette, new potatoes, and beet salad. The last course will be individual strawberry shortcakes. With these pass a bowl of whipped cream for those who wish it, as it is a good rule never to serve any fruit with cream on it, as many people dislike milk or cream with a fruit acid. During the afternoon lemonade may be served with strawberries floating on top.

The Morning Musicale

DURING the spring and summer the morning musicale is most popular, the hours being from 10 to 12. At an affair of this kind given for about twenty intimate friends, which was followed by a simple luncheon, the hostess had the following quotations, one at the top of each programme:

Music is the language spoken by angels.—LONGFELLOW.

Music is the child of prayer, the companion of religion.—CHATEAUBRIAND.

Music loosens the heart that care has bound.—BYRD.

Music is love in search for a word.—SIDNEY LANIER.

Music is as a shower bath of the soul, washing away all that is impure.—SCHOPENHAUER.

In music all hearts are revealed to us.—SHORTHOUSE.

My language is understood all over the world.—HAYDN.

Music is a thing of the soul; a rose-lipped shell that murmurs of the eternal sea; a strange bird singing the songs of another shore.—J. G. HOLLAND.

What love is to man, music is to the arts and to mankind.—VON WEBER.

Music is the first, the simplest, the most effective of all instruments of moral instructions.—RUSKIN.

It is music's lofty mission to shed light on the human soul.—SCHUMANN.

Music washes away from the soul the dust of everyday life.—AUERBACH.

Music is the only sensual qualification mankind may indulge in

to excess without injury to their moral or religious feelings.—ADDISON.

Music is to the mind as is air to the body.—PLATO.

Music is a higher manifestation than all wisdom and philosophy.—BEETHOVEN.

Music is the only perfect language of all the higher emotions.—ABBOTT.

Music is the only one of all the arts that does not corrupt the mind.—MONTESQUIEU.

Were it not for music, we might in these days say the beautiful is dead.—DISRAELI.

We cannot imagine a complete education of man without music. It is the gymnastics of the affections. In suitable connection with exercises, it is necessary to keep body and soul in health.—RICHTER.

I think sometimes could I only have music on my own terms, could I live in a great city, and know where I could go whenever I wished the ablution and inundation of musical waves, that were a bath and a medicine.—EMERSON.

That which music expresses is eternal and ideal. It does not give voice to the passion, the love, the longing of this or the other individual, under these or other circumstances; but to passion, love, longing itself.—WAGNER.

It is in music, perhaps, that the soul most nearly attains the great end for which, when inspired by the poetic sentiment, it struggles—the creation of supernal beauty. It may be, indeed that here this sublime end is now and then attained in fact. We are often made to feel with a shivering delight that from an earthly harp are stricken notes which could not have been unfamiliar to the angels.—EDGAR ALLAN POE.

A Rose Musicale

ROSES belong to June, so this charming affair is specially fitting then. Have the hour 3 o'clock and give the programme of songs all pertaining to roses. Intersperse piano or violin selections, although ballad programmes are very popular. Serve ice cream, either in rose molds or in lovely candy roses, the stems of green candy; small cakes and after-dinner cups of French coffee. Decorate exclusively with roses, giving each guest one as he enters the room.

PROGRAMME

1. My Love Is Like a Red, Red Rose.
2. Roses Bring Dreams of You.
3. My Rosy Rambler.
4. My Southern Rose.
5. Last Rose of Summer.
6. Garden of Roses.
7. My Wild Irish Rose.
8. Roses in June.
9. Meet Me in Rosetime, Rosie.
10. Roses.
11. My Rosary.
12. Rose, Pretty Rose.

A Clover Luncheon

THE invitations for this pretty affair were sent on green cardboard clovers, written with white ink; there were only six guests, and they were asked to wear shirt waist suits, so there was no formality. The table centrepiece was a glass bowl filled with pink and white clover blossoms with a profusion of the beautiful leaves. The tablecloth was sprinkled with clovers, and clover chains made by the small daughter of the hostess went to the four corners of the table from the chandelier. The effect was lovely and so simple.

The place cards were white, with a four-leafed clover pasted on each. The first course was fruit, then fish creamed in ramekins, Saratoga chips, pear salad, cheese wafers, olives, nuts, cheese balls with bar-le-duc. A sherbet, small cakes and iced grape juice completed the repast. After luncheon a long walk was taken through the fields to hunt four-leafed clovers. On the return tiny hot biscuit with clover honey were served on the porch, with tea.

June Birthday Party

A LITTLE girl whom the gods favored by ushering into this mortal sphere on a sunny June day always has her

birthday celebrations on the lawn. Each year this affair, which was always a costume party or a character party of some kind, was looked forward to not only by the participants in the pretty pageant, but by the grown-ups who were asked to view the scene from the broad piazzas.

The invitations, which were issued two weeks in advance, requested the guests to come costumed as the flower designated. These notes were written in gold ink on pale pink paper, tied to a pink rosebud; and were delivered from a rose-trimmed basket.

The girls came as roses in all varieties. Then there were lily of the valley, violet, tiger lily, daisy, pansy, black-eyed Susan, etc. The boys were sunflowers, bachelor's buttons, tulips, red carnations and chrysanthemums and nasturtiums. Jack-in-the-Pulpit and Johnny Jump-Up were also represented. Crêpe tissue paper and cheap gauzes, tinsels and cambrics entered largely into the construction of the costumes worn.

Soap bubbles occupied the first part of the afternoon, the tennis court being the place selected for the contest. The girls blew the bubbles and the boys fanned them over the net; the opposite side tried to keep the bubbles from going over. The side first getting ten bubbles over the net won a prize. Then things were reversed, and the boys blew and the girls fanned. Glycerin in the proportion of a tablespoonful to a pint of water was used for blowing the bubbles and the pipes had a rim of soap around them inside the bowl which causes the fairy balls to grow to immense size; the glycerin gives lasting qualities unknown to plain water. There were prizes for this contest, consisting of flower-shaped candy boxes filled with candied violets and rose petals.

At 5 o'clock supper was served from a long table over which a canopy of paper roses had been made by

putting up tall stakes at regular intervals from which these garlands were festooned; the roof was made by criss-crossing heavy wire and covering with vines. The roses were suspended by fine wire. The effect was excellent.

Making the roses had furnished the children of the house pleasant occupation for more than one rainy spring day; having helped in the preparations, they were most keenly interested in the success of the party.

Refreshments consisted of minced chicken sandwiches, lemonade, sugar wafers, strawberry ice cream and a huge birthday cake wreathed in pink roses. Pink rose holders held the candles, and each child had a wee pink iced cake with a wee pink candle in front of his place to take home.

A Croquet Luncheon

Along with other old-fashioned things the time-honored game of croquet has been revived. These suggestions are for a luncheon to follow a match.

The table should be a long one to carry out the scheme with best effect, and if a miniature set of croquet can be purchased it will also simplify matters. Eight small wickets will be needed and they are to be arranged on the table just as on the ground. The cage or crossed arches should be quite tall, as they will form the centrepiece. Any handy man (or woman) can make these wickets with blocks of wood and wire. Wind the wickets first with green crêpe paper, then with fine picture wire or florists' wire. Cover them with sweet peas or any other flower that may be preferred, but the sweet peas are especially pretty when the delicate pink, white and lavender are combined. Each wicket may have a ribbon bow on top. The tiny croquet mallets are laid at each place with name cards tied to the handle. For bonbons

have hard candy balls flavored with fruit juice; the confectioner will make them in all the delicate shades. The croquet stakes, ribbon-bound, should be at the head and foot and the successful players have these seats.

CHAPTER VII.—PASTIMES FOR JULY

THE Fourth of July, besides celebrating our nation's birthday, has become a day of family festivities, often marking the gathering of the clan for the first time since the winter holidays. It is a jolly merry-making time for house and week-end parties. Everyone is in a holiday humor, and the gorgeous red, white and blue floats in triumph from the flagstaffs erected on the grounds of country homes.

It is now quite the thing to fly a large bunting flag, and the lowering and raising each day has become a part of the daily routine. In one family the eldest son, a lad of 12, has been delegated for this especial duty, the flag being carefully folded and put in a certain place. It is left up until seven, as father always likes to see it flying when he comes home on the train, "for then he knows everything is all right," as the seven-year-old girl explained.

At a party to be given at a hospitable home, the guests were asked to come in costumes representing prominent characters in American history. The ice cream was in shape of flags, gunboats and forts with tiny silk flags flying from the ramparts, and soldiers. Fireworks were set off after dark, but there were no explosives louder than baby firecrackers and small torpedoes. They had all sorts of funny races on the lawn, and the prizes were patriotic candy boxes filled with candy crackers and chocolate bonbons wrapped like torpedoes.

July Fourth Balloon Party

A DEVOTED father cornered the balloon market for a party which was given in honor of his son's eighth birthday. The youngster having reached earth in time to hear the final "pop" before July Fourth ended, his parents always tried to have some rather unusual party for him.

There were twenty children, and ten red and ten blue balloons. Then under the father's direction each child had a fireworks balloon, which was sent up just "as soon as it's dark enough," the small lad said. And what a long time it takes to get dark on the Fourth of July!

There was plenty of pink lemonade, with cherries in it, a silk flag for each one, red, white and blue candles in the cake and ice cream in the same patriotic colors, moulded in shapes of cannons, with cannon balls of chocolate. Altogether it was a jolly good party, and no danger in it, either. The boys shot air guns and the girls had bows and arrows.

Fourth of July Tangle Party

THE invitations for this party read: "Miss Sally Parks desires Miss Mildred Jones's presence at a Ntlage Yaptr on Saturday, July 4, from 8 to 11."

It took a little juggling with letters to find out just what kind of party it was, and when they did get the words the guests were not much wiser. Mystery is always delightful, especially when one is to be entertained.

The first tangle was unravelling or rather untangling worsteds, the partners being chosen by matching quotations cut in halves. The prize was awarded after each event. "Tangled Celebrities" came next, being the names of famous persons transposed. There were ten names and five minutes were allotted for making them plain. Partners were found for this by hunting and matching

animal crackers. The third and last tangle was the very best.

A lot of imitation firecrackers (made of candy) were tied to a string and made into a perfect maze, cobweb fashion, each person being given an end to untangle, taking off firecrackers as they were found. The one who got the most crackers off in a given space of time not only had the spoils to eat, but a funny cannon cracker box filled with delicious candy cannon balls.

A July Fourth Amusement

THE objects all represent prominent Americans; pictures cut from magazines will help out. The names may be written on flag-decorated cards:

PAUL REVERE—A toy horse with rider labelled, "The Horse Travels Best by Night."

ABRAHAM LINCOLN—Two small darkies, labelled, "All Free."

WASHINGTON—A bunch of cherries, labelled, "Our National Fruit."

CARRIE NATION—A toy hatchet, labelled, "You Think You Know. Guess Again."

GENERAL GRANT—A chocolate cigar.

THEODORE ROOSEVELT—A doll's Rough Rider hat.

RICHMOND HOBSON—A confectioner's "kiss."

BARBARA FRIETCHIE—The national flag.

THEODORE THOMAS—A bar of music and a street car conductor's cap.

BENJAMIN HARRISON—His grandfather's hat.

MARK TWAIN—Two pencil marks.

P. T. BARNUM—A hippopotamus, labelled, "The Greatest Show on Earth."

HARRIET BEECHER STOWE—"Uncle Tom's Cabin," represented by a toy negro cabin.

PRISCILLA ALDEN—A picture of a Puritan at a spinning wheel.

JEFFERSON DAVIS—A Confederate dollar bill.

WILLIAM J. BRYAN—A silver dollar (number sixteen in the collection).

MISS STONE—The stone figure of a woman, labelled, "Kidnapped," or a copy of Stevenson's "Kidnapped."

JOSEPH JEFFERSON—A little dog, labelled, "My Dog Schneider."

NATHANIEL HAWTHORNE—"The Scarlet Letter," represented by a medium-size red envelope.
ELI WHITNEY—A cotton gin, represented by a branch of cotton and a bottle, labelled, "Pure Holland Gin."
ROBERT FULTON—A toy steamboat.
BENJAMIN FRANKLIN—A kite and a key.

For favors cover small pill boxes with red paper to look like firecrackers; run a string through the cork for a fuse; fill with red bonbons or perfumery.

Some Patriotic Toasts

TO COLUMBIA AND HERS

HERE's health to Columbia, the pride of the earth.
The Stars and Stripes—drink the land of our birth!
Toast the army and navy, who fought for our cause,
Who conquered and won us our freedom and laws.

I was born an American, I live an American, I shall die an American.—DANIEL WEBSTER.

Breathes there the man with soul so dead
Who never to himself hath said:
"This is my own, my native land!"
Whose heart hath ne'er within him burned
As home his footsteps he hath turned
From wandering on a foreign strand?
—"Lay of the Last Minstrel," SCOTT.

A Porch Watermelon Party

THE invitations were melon-shaped bits of green cardboard ornamented with a row of little darkies eating triangular pieces of watermelon, the words, "Den O dat Watermelon" done in gilt letters across the top. Jack O'Lanterns made from watermelons hung from the veranda, alternating with Japanese lanterns of various shades. The table centrepiece was made from a scooped-out half of melon filled with brilliantly colored nasturtiums; the name cards were extremely odd, being squares

of melon rinds, the names etched down to the pale lining of the rind. A sharp orange wood stick was used for lettering. The place doilies were made from melon seeds, the black coloring showing up beautifully on the pink. The first course was iced watermelon juice with tiny cubes of the pink fruit floating in the green bouillon cups. The next course was watermelon and cantaloupe salad served in white lettuce hearts in pink salad cups made from crêpe paper; and the third course consisted of salad cups made from pink crêpe paper; and the fourth course consisted of watermelon frappé served in little boats from watermelon rinds neatly cut out with a very sharp knife, each boat having a darky doll to steer it. After this unique repast, a quartet of darkies sang coon songs for an hour; they were concealed by the shrubbery on the lawn and the music was greatly enjoyed by the guests on the porch, the moon came up and it was all lovely and unusual.

For a Dandelion Party

Was there ever a child who did not love dandelions? This gorgeous little flower is first with us in the spring, and even stray blossoms may be found late in the fall. A field fairly carpeted with these yellow stars gave the idea for this party.

No sooner thought of than a dozen children had received notes written in white ink on round pieces of yellow paper asking them to assemble in Parson's field at two o'clock one July afternoon. Sewing tables were set under a couple of trees covered with white crêpe paper tablecloths. In the centre of each was a mound of dandelions, a bunch at each place, and there was a basket for each guest.

When all had arrived there was a contest to see who could gather the most flowers in a half-hour; after the

spoils were counted the boy and the girl having the most were crowned with dandelion wreaths. Then they made rings, chains, and bracelets out of the stems and told fortunes by the full blown blossoms.

At five o'clock this delicious spread was unpacked from a huge hamper, and the children pronounced it the "best ever": Bread-and-butter sandwiches, egg salad, dainty small cakes and bottled lemonade, fruit and candy.

A Bacon Bat

A YOUNG college friend informed me that the very latest thing in outdoor affairs was "a bacon bat." I concluded that it must be loads of fun. Of course, as with all such parties, all depends upon the guests and their love of outdoor functions. We all feel the "call of the wild" these glorious days, and I am sure many of our readers will want to have a "bacon bat" just as soon as they read this.

Six couples are enough. Provide plenty of delicious bacon sliced very thin, sweet potatoes and several dozen finger rolls. These are the requirements, but other things may be added at the pleasure of the hostess. Build a fire, roast the sweet potatoes (or take a frying pan, have the potatoes boiled at home, and fry them over the coals). Grill the bacon on the ends of long sticks, insert the finger rolls and you have a meal fit for a king. Coffee may be made, and I assure you the only danger is in not having enough of everything.

Nature study classes are in favor all over the country, and after a tramp, what could be more appetizing than the repast I have just described? I would suggest roasting Irish potatoes and taking a jar of butter with plenty of tissue paper napkins. Hard boiled eggs are a welcome addition, with a jar of tiny cucumber pickles and olives both ripe and green.

A Hen Party

DON'T for one minute think that this party was merely a convocation of the gentler sex. The men were the instigators, and this is the way it all came about. A couple belonging to their card club had taken the suburban fever in its most violent form. The result was not only a charming bungalow some twenty miles out, but the chicken fever had struck them, too. So all "Ed" talked about was hens and their fresh eggs. The funny man in the club suggested a surprise party, first telling the couple that a few of them were coming out on Saturday afternoon. The women prepared a dainty luncheon, and each man secured a real live hen, some took a dozen eggs for hatching. Imagine the scene when twenty guests arrived, and ten hens. The host and hostess rose to the occasion, coffee was made and the repast served on the porch while the men regaled the company with the stories of how and where they procured the hens. It was made up among them that he fowls must be delivered by the giver, not sent by express or messenger. It was the funniest affair ever seen.

An Outdoor Fête

A YOUNG woman who lived in the country, also near the shore of one of our great lakes, planned this happy day for her friends.

She was entertaining a house party of four, then she issued charming cards bearing a snap shot of the house, with the following diversions: from ten to twelve, tennis, croquet, archery; luncheon *al fresco* at one; on the veranda until three; surf bathing and beach party with picnic supper at six. Lawn party with dancing at half after eight. The guests took in all or as many of the features as they could, all showing up at the party. The

lawn was beautifully decorated with lanterns, fairy lamps and several electric headlights, making it a scene like fairy land.

A few stringed instruments furnished the music. Refreshments consisting of watermelons, ices, fruits, small cakes and bonbons were served on the porch from the dining room that opened out on it by a series of French doors. Automobiles met the trains and took the city guests to the station. The men wore flannels and the girls short dainty wash frocks at the dance and all had a glorious time.

A Floral Card Party

During the summer, whether at the seashore or mountain, people are apt to keep in mind their special charity (and every woman has one these days). Card parties seem to be the most popular way of making money, and this method has proved not only pretty but successful. A floral card party is carried out by giving prizes of potted plants and keeping the score with flowers, either carnations, roses or some blossom that does not wilt quickly.

Invitations are sent for a "floral progressive card party" on cards cut in the shape of a flower. Jonquils, tulips, marguerites and roses lend themselves admirably to the scheme. To the winners pass vases containing the score flowers. At the finish every one will possess at least one or more of the fragrant reminders of their good luck. The ice cream may be moulded in floral shapes, and the small cakes ornamented with candy roses; crystallized violets and rose leaves may be mixed with the bonbons. Each guest is supposed to contribute 25 or 50 cents, whichever sum is agreed upon, to the charity for which the party is given.

A Knock-About Party

"WEAR a knock-about suit, a broad brim hat and stout shoes and come to my house Tuesday at five p. m." Such were the characteristic notes sent to a dozen friends, six boys and six girls. Big sister was the chaperon, and what a fine one she made. When all had arrived cups of iced bouillon were served with hot wafers; and soon a hay rack appeared, drawn by two stout horses. Horns were provided, and away they went on a four-mile ride to the side of an inland lake, where a fish supper was provided at a nearby farmhouse; then a moonlight row on the lake, and the homeward journey to the tune of college songs accompanied by a guitar and banjo played by two of the boys. Safely back by 10:30, refreshments consisting of watermelon and ginger ale were served by the hospitable mother; and all toasted marshmallows over tiny pink candles, which were fastened by a drop of wax to pink plates; toothpicks were used to hold the sweets and they puffed beautifully over the pink flames. All declared that it was the very best party ever, and all welcomed the novelty and informality of the affair.

A Golf Luncheon

A MINIATURE links was the decorative scheme in the centre of the table, golf bags and sticks were the personal souvenirs at each place, and the guests came directly from a morning game, so were hungry for the plain but appetizing menu. The maid serving had her cap adorned with the colors of the club to which all belonged, and candy was made in round balls. Iced bouillon was served first, followed by cold tongue and jellied chicken, hot rolls, shoestring potatoes, asparagus salad, bar-le-duc and cheese. Chocolate ice cream was served in ball moulds, and the cakes were sponge drops rolled in grated cocoanut.

CHAPTER VIII.—PASTIMES FOR AUGUST

Below-Zero Luncheon

THE hostess issued her invitations on blue-white cards, the letters outlined with diamond dust. She did this by writing with a heavy pen in gilt ink, then went over the letters with liquid glue, then dipped the card in the diamond dust and the sparkles adhered to the glue. A polar bear clasping a thermometer which registered "10 below" was in the corner of the card. "Please wear a white frock" was in the lower left-hand corner.

On arriving, iced grape juice with a dash of lemon was served. In a few moments the dining-room doors were opened, revealing the coolest place imaginable. The chairs were covered with white cotton cloth, the curtains were white and the floor had been covered with sheets tightly stretched and fastened down with large tacks. A huge cake of ice was the centrepiece, surmounted by a group of toy polar bears. Ferns and vines were massed about the base. Two small globes of goldfish were on either side. The candles were white, also the shades. Diamond dust glistened on the tablecloth and glass icicles hung from the chandeliers, while the dearest of tiny dolls drew sleds inscribed with the name of each guest, forming the place cards.

Then a delicious white menu was served—first iced bouillon in glasses, cold breast of chicken, Saratoga chips, baking-powder biscuit, pear and pineapple salad with whipped cream dressing, iced tea and cantaloupe, filled with vanilla cream completed this feast, with the usual accessories of nuts, white French bonbons and

individual cases, and the most delicious watermelon preserves. The guests were asked to relate the coldest experience they had ever had. There were large thermometers around the room with the mercury down below zero.

A Sylvan Party

"Maid Marian requests your presence under the Greenwood Tree at three o'clock on Saturday. If it rains the party will be in the house."

A dozen children were the recipients of the above invitations, and not one sent regrets. On the eventful day it did not rain, and the young hostess, aged seven, awaited her guests in a perfect fairy bower. Her elder sister had been deeply interested in fairy stories, and this really unique affair was the result.

Lanterns and paper chains such as children make in kindergarten were interlaced from tree to tree, and there were quantities of wild flowers arranged in tubs and crocks. The entire yard was transformed into a perfect bower, and the mystery that pervaded everything was delicious to the children. After a number of pretty games and dances done to music (the piano had been moved close to an open window for the occasion) a golden wand (father's cane wrapped in gilt paper) was handed to each child in turn.

On a fine old maple tree this placard was found:

These branches are laden
With treasures for maidens;
Strike with your wand
The fairies'll respond.

A tree close by said:

High in this tree
Treasures you'll see
For good little boys
There are all sorts of toys.

Tied to the branches of these trees there were favors wrapped and fastened with gay narrow ribbons. The children pointed to the parcel they wished for their own and the fairy god-mother proceeded to cut it down with her magic scissors.

But the serving of refreshments was the best of all. An awning was pulled aside and there were two long tables with spoons, plates, and big platters containing what proved to be a reserve supply of stuffed eggs and sandwiches. Then the good fairy pointed to a sign on the tree, whose branches overhung the supper table, which said:

Under this tree great doings there'll be;
Look sharp for cookies and eggs you'll see.
Candy and nuts and oranges, too,
Are up there waiting for you and for you.

And sure enough, hanging to the low bough were sandwiches, hard-boiled eggs, animal cookies, doughnuts, stick candy, bags of nuts and an orange for each guest. Paper napkins fluttered in reach of all and a small tree near by had twelve bright tin cups attached to it with the following legend:

If thirsty you are
And come from afar,
Take a cup from this tree,
Walk first to the left,
And then to the right,
A well of clear water,
Will rise to your sight.

Sure enough, there was the water-cooler on a fern-decked table, but, instead of water, it contained lemonade. The children were wild with delight and voted "Maid Marian's" party the very best ever.

An Indian Dinner Party

THREE couples who summer in the far northern woods were the recipients of this novel dinner, given by a

bachelor who had been their guest during several seasons. The invitations were on birch bark, with an Indian tepee done in the corner, and a camp fire. The envelope was also of birch bark, but inclosed in white ones to protect in the mail. The dining-room was ornamented with Indian products—Navajo blankets on the floor, on the walls fine specimens of pottery and baskets gathered from the West and from Alaska. The centrepiece was a most realistic tepee, with braves and squaws and children, not forgetting a dog or two. The place cards were papooses, to which the names were attached by bead strings. The initials were worked on birch bark in porcupine quills. Bonbons and salted nuts were in tiny Indian baskets at each place. They were taken as souvenirs. At each end of the table were large birch-bark canoes filled with flowers and vines. I give the menu, which was written on an Indian postcard:

Squaw Soup (Bouillon).
Wigwam Croquettes (Fish).
Chicken *à la* Canoe.
Saddle of Mutton.
Choctaw Peas. Apache Gravy.
Arrowhead Potatoes.
Calumet Squabs.
Papoose Rolls. Wikiup Salad (Roman).
Prune Sioux (Feather Cream).
Hiawatha Cakes. Indian Punch.
Grasshopper Cheese. Tomahawk (Cookies).

For a Beach Party

Here are some practical suggestions for a beach or shore party, to be given either by moonlight or as a regular supper to be served at six o'clock: Driftwood in abundance must be at hand and a huge fire built. When the coals are just right, put in good-sized potatoes to roast, and also ears of green sweet-corn. There may be fish to be broiled. If so, the meal will be an ideal one.

Sandwiches, devilled eggs, and salad will be forthcoming from pasteboard boxes. A supply of paper dishes and napkins will complete the details for this simple but delicious repast. Provide squares of butter for the potatoes and eat with a spoon. Have marshmallows and some long, clean sticks for roasting. These will make the dessert. Much sweet stuff is always out of place for a meal of this kind, although doughnuts are generally enjoyed by the masculine members of the party. Sweet potatoes may also be roasted, but they burn quickly and require careful watching.

Banjos, guitars, or mandolins, with the good old college songs are always a fitting accompaniment to a beach party. Steamer rugs, common sofa pillows, and extra wraps will be provided by the ever-thoughtful chaperon.

An Orchard Party

We had taken what was practically an abandoned farm for the summer and were meditating how to entertain our city friends in some rather unusual way, when Polly came to the rescue and said, "Let's have an Orchard party." So the artist of the family did lovely invitations, with apple trees as the decorative scheme. We had four small tables each with a rustic basket for the centrepiece filled with field wild-flowers. The place cards were made from squares of birch bark, and the joke favors were wrapped in yellow tissue paper and tied to the trees, from which they were cut by the guests. Then we sent to town and got fruit-shaped candy boxes, which were strung at intervals on yellow cord after the method of the old but always funny cobweb parties, and stretched these strings over a good part of the orchard. The hunt after the luncheon for the "fruit" added much to the merriment. Sometimes it was necessary to climb up a ladder conveniently placed under a tree to reach the "fruit," which

was just out of reach, and sometimes a rail fence had to be climbed. The guests were all told to wear tub suits. and broad brimmed straw hats were provided.

Picnic Parties

Picnics are quite the proper thing these days. We are all coming to live in the open and gratify this longing according to the opportunities and invitations within our reach. Of course, the picnic *de luxe* is when one goes in magnificent high-grade car and the inner man is satisfied by the contents of a luxuriously equipped wicker chest, which contains all the appointments necessary to a perfectly served meal. The hostess brews a cheering cup from her English tea basket; a folding table and chairs are set up; with the helpful thermos bottle, cooling drinks are forthcoming, and a delightful repast is enjoyed many miles from the starting-point.

Every one may indulge in some sort of outdoor meals; even the back porches of apartments have been changed into charming eating-places by the means of awnings, screens, rapidly growing vines and window boxes, each article being neatly wrapped in waxed paper. For a few cents paper sets, consisting of table cloths, napkins and plates, may be purchased, also paper drinking cups, so there will be very little to carry home.

An outing club of young people has simplified matters by each member owning a tin plate, knife, fork, and spoon and cup, which are marked with the owner's initials. All are tied together and left at the house nearest to the shore, where all gather for the start to the beach parties which are so popular. There is a chaperon provided by the hostess, and such merry times as these lads and lasses have! Sometimes they go bathing; there is always some unusual feature planned. If beach or woods are not accessible, try having a picnic in the back yard;

it is really a very good substitute, and has the advantage of home near and no long journey before one can seek the downy couch and sweet repose, which is always welcome after outdoor doings.

At a Honey Tea

As EXPERTS claim that the best honey is made from clover, the centrepiece was a great bowl filled with red and white clovers. The place cards were decorated with clovers, around which bees hovered in the most realistic manner. Honey was used for sweetening the tea, and milk was served with delicious hot biscuit, also muffins, a delightful accompaniment to the golden honey in the comb.

On the guest of honor's card was written: "Sweeter than honey and the honey-comb." Refreshments were served on the porch, and the guests brought their fancy work, as the invitations said "Thimbles."

An Old-Time Rag Bee

A HOSTESS who combined a good time with getting her rags cut and sewed for bedroom rugs for her new house issued the following invitation to a dozen of her intimate friends:

Come to ye
old-fashioned homestead
for a
rag-cutting at five o'clock.
Come prepared for your work with
scissors and aprons.
Supper will be served at seven o'clock.
Ye husbands have an invite to supper.

These were despatched by messenger, and they were sealed with a big dab of red wax and did not have envelopes, being carefully folded to represent them. Bunches of herbs and strings of dried apples decorated

the rooms, and patch-work quilts furnished the draperies. Each lady was provided with a basket of rags and the one who sewed the largest ball was awarded a prize of a pumpkin pie. Supper was served from a candle-lighted table and consisted of brown bread, rolls, cold ham, Boston baked beans, chicken salad, catchup, pickles, currant and apple jellies, crullers, spice cake, with cottage cheese, fruit, nuts, and coffee.

Afterwards, old-fashioned games like backgammon, checkers and bezique were played.

Early Morning Bird Party

A HOSTESS in a near-by suburb gave this party, which was novel and hugely enjoyed by those who participated. The hour was half-after five in the morning, and the invitations contained a time table with the train marked that those who accepted must take. At the station they were met by a bus and conveyed to the house, where coffee and rolls were served on the porch. Then an hour was spent in the woods adjacent to the grounds where the birds congregate for their early matins.

The hostess had a book describing birds, their habits and their notes, which was used as reference. A prize was awarded to the person who knew the names of the most birds, one to the person who discovered the greatest variety, and one to the guest who counted the most nests. An hour was spent in this way and then all returned to the house, where a perfectly delicious breakfast was served, beginning with fruit and ending with waffles and maple syrup.

A Lawn Bridge Party

LAWN FETES are very popular. A delightful bridge party was just given with ten tables scattered over the perfectly cut lawn that stretched at the front and side

of the house. The entire color scheme was in yellow, the gorgeous golden glow being in evidence everywhere. The tables were covered with white, they had very narrow yellow ribbons across the corners to hold the table numbers, pencils (of yellow) and the score cards, which were decorated with sunflowers. There were five prizes, all very beautiful, being a white and gold plate, a cup and saucer, sugar and creamer, and a comport in glass with gilt decorations. Refreshments were served on the card tables, and consisted of orange ice in tall glasses, the stems twined with asparagus ferns; the cakes were card-shaped, iced in white with spots in yellow. The bonbons were orange and lemon quarters, glacés. There were two hostesses who wore charming gowns of yellow. During the games glasses of lemonade containing slices of orange were passed on glass trays.

A Sand Pile Party

An innovation in children's parties was started by a mother of three, whose babies clearly loved company. She sent cards illustrated with "sunbonnet" babies asking a dozen children to come in their "rompers" from three to five. On a bright Saturday afternoon the merry throng appeared to find a load of delightfully clean sand; a set of sand toys for each child and a pail and shovel. There was a low table, a tub of water with which to mix the sand to the right consistency for pies; spoons, cake tins, and shakers to sprinkle "sugar" and "salt." Oh joy, there was a dish of flour for icing.

It was the jolliest, happiest party imaginable. Sandwiches, ice cream, cake (angel food) and lemonade were served and each child took home the sand toys for souvenirs, including the shovel and pail.

Progressive Dinner on August Twenty-Sixth

THERE were six couples who "bridged" together, golfed together, and shared each other's joys and sorrows for at least ten years. Then the parting of the ways came and the little coterie was broken up. They gave this affair at their last party:

PROGRESSIVE DINNER MENU

6:30 p. m.—Canapés.....Mrs. B.
(Address written in full.)
7:00 p. m.—Soup Crécy.....Mrs. H.
(Address.)
7:30 p. m.—Fish.....Mrs. D.
(Address.)
8:00 p. m.—Meat.....Mrs. S.
(Address.)
8:45 p. m.—Salad.....Mrs. A.
(Address.)
9:30 p. m.—Dessert.....Mrs. K.
(Address.)
10:15 p. m.—Walnuts and wine.....Mrs. F.
(Address.)

Probably not many of us remember our history well enough to recall that August 26 is the anniversary of the battle of Crécy, but the "soup" hostess was a loyal little English woman who always served Crécy soup on this day. King Edward VII., when he was the prince of Wales, also commemorated this day by insisting upon Crécy soup being served to him in honor of his illustrious ancester, the Black Prince.

I give the recipe, as it is a distinct novelty and used by many patriotic English families on this date:

The basis is carrots, young and fresh. First, slice rather thin, then fry a dozen of them with one sliced onion, one new turnip, diced small; use an ounce of butter and an ounce of finely shredded bacon. Add a bay leaf, a tablespoon of finely minced parsley and a little sweet

marjoram. When the vegetables begin to brown reduce the heat, stir to prevent burning, and in about ten minutes add a quart of rich beef stock and simmer for two hours. Strain before serving and add a dash of nutmeg.

An Automobile Card Party

A HOSTESS who was a member of a country club entertained at dinner and then played cards with these novel settings. In the first place the invitations were decorated with tiny red autos and her car took the guests to the club; as it held seven, the driver made four trips with a merry load each time.

The dinner table was in shape of a Maltese cross, with the centrepiece a large auto made by a confectioner and filled with flowers. The place cards were auto candy boxes and even the playing cards had automobiles on the backs. Score cards were ornamented in a like manner. The prizes consisted of an auto veil, cup in case for long country runs, picnic set, mechanical toy in form of an automobile for the man who was awarded the consolation prize.

It was the last of August, and peaches were in their prime; the dessert was ice cream moulded into exact productions of the real fruit; in fact, the stem and leaves were right off the trees.

CHAPTER IX.—PASTIMES FOR SEPTEMBER

REMEMBER that this month claims the sapphire for its stone, the morning glory for its flower, and it is considered a most auspicious month for marriages. Here is a verselet for a maiden who has a birthday in September's thirty days:

A maiden born when September leaves
Are rustling in September breeze,
A sapphire on her brow should bind;
'Twill cure diseases of the mind.

The sixteenth, eighteenth and twentieth are considered especially happy wedding-days; an old saying goes:

Married in September's golden glow,
Smooth and serene your life will flow.

A Wild Aster Luncheon

THE lovely wild aster furnished the keynote to one of the prettiest luncheons I ever attended. This dainty flower is very common, and really it is very beautiful. With it always comes the golden-rod, and they grow usually in close proximity. For a table centrepiece there was a low green pottery bowl containing a flower-holder, so that the blossoms branched out in a charming manner. The doilies were white, with finger bowl and tumbler doilies having embroidered designs in lavender. First we had iced grape-juice in tall glasses resting on doilies of grape leaves. Then there was the usual

luncheon menu with a delicious grape-juice sherbet for dessert, decorated with candied violet leaves, the plates set in a wreath of asters. The rooms were lavishly decorated with golden rod, and the combination of lavender asters and the brilliant yellow was very effective.

A "Labor Day" Luncheon

The hostess, being adroit with her pen, decorated each invitation with a girl in some act of household work, and besides this there was nothing but the day and date with the quotation: "Learn to labor and to wait"; also the request to wear a wash gown.

When the guests arrived they were given aprons all finished except the strings, which were of ribbon. This sewing done, the first labor was accomplished. Bows to match the apron strings were worn in the hair, a long hairpin being thrust through each to keep it in place.

The table centrepiece was a doll's wash tub filled with asters; the place cards were dustpans lettered in gold tied to the cutest of brooms. Before the dessert, each guest brushed her own crumbs with her broom and dustpan. And the dessert—it was the best part of all. There were eight guests, and four wee ice-cream freezers were brought to the table. Four of the guests "froze" and four concocted the cream, put in the ice, salt, etc. It all went well, the cream being ready to eat in less than fifteen minutes. Then the coffee; it was ground and made at the table, poured into the individual pots, and each guest served herself in an after-dinner cup at her place.

An interesting magazine article on the "revival of the household arts" was a feature of the after-luncheon entertainment and the hostess displayed some fine specimens of "before the war" needle work which she has gathered from various parts of the South.

Each guest was asked to tell her favorite occupation and the best method of perfecting it.

A Harvest Home Supper

A HARVEST home supper—that is the proper thing this month. Hostesses who rejoice in country houses always wind up the season with one of these delightful affairs. Perhaps the invitations say "*En costume,*" and then all the guests go in country guise, hayseeds from Podunk and gay farmer lads and lasses all gather in one big frolic.

Usually a hay wagon with four horses is sent to meet the guests, and tin horns are provided for the men with which to wind a merry tune as the load is conveyed along the road. After dancing, supper is served, and the ceremony of bringing in the last sheaf of wheat is sometimes observed by people who love to adhere to all the dear old customs of the past.

At such a dinner, which is to be given the last of the month, everything served on the table is to be home grown; and the favors, of which I had a glimpse, are all symbolic of gardening or farm work.

The centrepiece is to be a miniature load of hay drawn by three horses abreast, and there is to be a real barn with the fascinating toy animals in the barnyard. The hostess said she spent nearly an entire day in search of these novelties with which to make her dinner complete.

The guests are asked to come promptly at five, and there is to be a drive over the farm before sitting down to the table at six o'clock. In the invitation a time table was enclosed with the train to be taken marked, and it was also added that the guests were to come in business suits.

A recipient of one of these much-desired "invites" said: "There is a woman after my own heart; she never

leaves a fellow in doubt as to just what to do." Many of us might take the hint and remember to be more explicit.

A Novel Nut Card Party

A HOSTESS wishing to add a touch of novelty to her afternoon card party, which was to be given upon the broad enclosed porch, did so in this manner: She issued invitations enclosed inside an English walnut shell; these were sent by messenger to the nearby places and put in tiny boxes and sent by mail to the town guests. The score cards were nut shaped and the number of games won was kept by dropping nuts into small silk bags of nut-brown satin. Cards backed with acorns were used. For refreshments, nut sandwiches, with chicken salad, olives, and cheese nuts were served with nut ice cream and nut cake. Glacéd nuts were the sweet, and salted nuts were passed.

The prizes, of which there were four, were a nut-shaped silver vanity box, a nut-shaped thimble case, a fancy box filled with glacéd nuts, and a box of candies in exact shape of peanuts. It is astonishing how many appropriate articles may be found to use at a nut party.

A September Luncheon

THIS is such a glorious month! One feels that it is just good to be alive, and to be permitted to help others plan for happy times is certainly a delight and privilege much appreciated. A hostess who returned from a summer abroad gave this pretty affair, the place cards bearing this appropriate verse:

O sweet September, thy first breezes bring
The dry leaf's rustle and the squirrel's laughter,
The cool fresh air whence health and vigor spring,
And promise of exceeding joy hereafter.

The cards were decorated with a tracery in gold, studded with blue dots, supposed to be sapphires, the birth stone for this month. The table was bare, with a wonderful set of blue doilies and centrepiece done by the Russian peasant women. Black-eyed Susans, now in their prime, were the only flowers in evidence, and they fairly made the rooms blaze with gorgeous colorings—"concentrated sunshine," some one has aptly called them.

The *pièce de résistance* was what the hostess called scrapple, and was so delicious she had to give the recipe, which follows: One pound of round steak, one pound of fresh pork, put through the chopper, boiled until done and enough water left to take up cornmeal to the mush consistency. Mould in a pan over night. Slice thin, dip in cornmeal and fry in hot lard or bacon grease. The platter was garnished with parsley and deviled eggs.

Then there were escalloped tomatoes and green peppers in ramekin, and individual peach shortcake was the dessert.

A novel feature was that four guests out of the eight were born in September.

A Shell Party

This party may be carried out at the seashore, or after returning with a bountiful supply of shells, which are among the most wonderful of nature's creations.

The affair I have in mind was given for a ten-year-old daughter to celebrate her birthday. Invitations were issued written on little clam shells, scrubbed clean; the lettering was also clear and distinct.

Fish nets, crab nets, fishing poles of bamboo, with flags and boat pennants made the decorations.

The table was lovely with a huge oval pan (made by tinsmith) in the centre, real sand made a beach with

tiny shells; at the corners there are large conch shells filled with flowers and vines.

On the lake or sea were tiny boats, with wee dolls for sailors. For place cards there were candy boxes in shape of oysters, crabs, lobsters, and fish—filled with hard candies in exact shape of shells.

Then there was a basket filled with rare shells from all parts of the globe, which were examined by the guests and explained to them by the young hostess' aunt, who had collected them, also rare bits of coral.

For the older children there was a contest to which the answers were all names of fishes.

The prize was a glass globe filled with gold fish.

When refreshments were served, salted almonds were on mussel shells. The plates were large, round, almost flat shells, which came from the Pacific coast. Creamed salmon was served hot in shell ramekins; these shells were fluted and came from Florida. "Potatoes on the half-shell" were scooped out baked potatoes on large clam shells. Then, of course, there was ice cream and a candle-lighted cake, each candle in a little shell anchored in the icing. A pretty contest was stringing the beautiful little opalescent shells that come from Hawaii and are used so effectively for necklaces. The smaller children had a fish pond for their amusement.

Two Outdoor Games

These games are just the thing for outdoor parties, which may be given all the month of September. The first is called "Deerfoot."

All the players are different kinds of deer: Reindeer, elk, moose, red deer, fallow deer or mule deer, antelope, and fawns. For the forest trees have pieces of paper held to the ground with sharpened sticks, or real trees if they are available. There must be one fewer of trees

than of deer. The extra deer stands in the middle of the "forest." A leader is chosen by popular vote or by the host, and all follow him, skipping lightly around the "forest." Suddenly the deer in the centre calls "Deer-foot"—and all run rapidly to a tree for shelter. Of course the deer in the middle is after a tree, too. The deer who fails to find a tree is called a snail and takes his place in the centre and the game proceeds.

The Wigwam

HALF of the players hide and have ten minutes to make their trail with cut papers (confetti) or corn. Each Indian goes a different way. Then at the expiration of the time limit the other players, who are "white men," go on the trail and the game is to see who can return to the wigwam first with his Indian.

While these are supposed to be boys' games, girls enjoy them too. I speak from experience, for it was the delight of my childhood days to "play Indian," and I still thrill with genuine terror when I think of my fear of being scalped.

CHAPTER X.—PASTIMES FOR OCTOBER

Maud Muller Party

DURING the golden October days, outdoor and indoor parties combined are quite the thing. A hostess noted for her originality invited her friends to a Maud Muller party. The invitations said: "Informal; please come in country costumes." As she lived in a suburb, time tables were inclosed with the train marked that she wished them to take. The hour was five, and a merry throng took the four o'clock train. An immense hay wagon was at the station, with the splendid big horses gayly decorated and driven by the regular farm men instead of the liveried coachman and footman. There were horns for the men, and the hostess awaited them on the steps of the *porte cochère*. Big straw hats were given to the men, with red ribbons, and the girls had blue ones. Rakes with gilt handles were given the girls, who were thus attired as "Maud Mullers," and went forth to rake the hay on this charming summer day which had gotten by mistake into the fall calendar.

The girl who made the largest stack in ten minutes was awarded a prize; also there was a prize for the neatest stack. The men superintended this, and then a plough was brought for the men to try their skill, with prizes for the straightest row, and for the one made in the quickest time. By this time twilight was falling and guests watched the chickens fed and the cows milked. Then all adjourned to the dining-room, where a sumptuous supper was served, everything except the meats

being a product of the place. The decorations were most unique, being likewise home productions. Gourds, small squashes, and pumpkins were converted into most attractive flower holders, and the flowers were wild purple asters and golden rod, the combination being a most happy one. At half-after eight the hay wagon came to the door and a drive of an hour was taken over the hardest of country roads and then back to the station in time for the ten o'clock train. Afterwards in talking it over we all agreed that our hostess was so successful because her entertainments were so simple and she so natural and unaffected. Yet she could and sometimes did entertain formally and had plenty of money to spend; but her favorite way was to do things on the spur of the moment, and she always made use of the things that were in season.

She also had the art of always assembling just the right people together, and always remembered who hated "bridge," who didn't like golf, and who loathed to dress for a formal dinner party. On the quiet, I think she keeps a book with the peculiarities of each one of her friends carefully jotted down, just when she entertained them, and just what she served on each occasion. At least that is the way one of the best entertainers I ever knew does, and it is worth considering.

An October Luncheon

This charming October luncheon was the talk of those fortunate enough to attend. There were thirty guests seated at small tables throughout the rooms. The decorations were perfectly gorgeous and all supplied from the garden of the hostess and the woods near by. First there were quantities of foliage turned into vivid reds and browns, with dashes of yellow; there was a screen made of woodbine, the leaves of which are so beautiful now.

Then there were masses of salvia and clusters of mountain-ash berries. All exclaimed when they entered the rooms, "How lovely!" At the head of each place card was the following verse written in gold ink, and the decorations were scarlet and purple berries, which were cut out at top and side of card, as if growing:

My ornaments are fruits, my garments leaves,
Woven like cloth of gold and crimson dyed;
I do not boast the harvesting of sheaves,
O'er orchards and o'er vineyards I preside.

An immense brown basket of fruit was passed with the dessert course, the handle wound with vines and a huge bow of green, red and yellow. After the luncheon they played cards; the prizes were unusual from the fact that the hostess had made them all during the summer, all from brown linen worked in the autumn shades. There were two bags, a runner for the table and a lovely oblong pillow. On each table there was a little basket filled with candies. Grape juice was served during the game, each glass on a doily of grape leaves. The effect was cool and the grape juice most refreshing.

An Autumn Supper

This affair was really charming, inasmuch as the hostess did not attempt the impossible in any way. The gorgeous fall flowers and leaves were used everywhere as decorations—feathery golden rod, asters, and a fine white blossom that grows in profusion at this season. The table centrepiece was a large basket filled with fruits—grapes of all varieties, plums, peaches, pears, bananas and apples. The supper delighted every one—fried chicken, sweet potatoes, corn pudding, pickled peaches, jelly, hot biscuits, stuffed tomatoes for a salad, and floating island in tall slender glasses, capped by a Maraschino

cherry. There were old-fashioned peppermint wafers and iced tea or hot, as one preferred.

The hour for serving was half after six and there were individual candles at each place with the overhead light turned low. The place cards had quaint sentiments on them regarding the passing of summer. A chrysanthemum was thrust through the corner of each card.

There was no tablecloth. The table was laid with place doilies and a centrepiece.

For Allhallow Eve

Since the beginning of things there has been a belief in the subtle power of mysterious spells and omens in affairs of the heart. We find Othello, the Moor, winning fair Desdemona by the aid of spells; and medicines and charms of all kinds were recognized assistants in determining who was to be the future partner in life.

In the present day Hallow Eve is the proper time for all sorts of frolics, and here is the lemon test for the girl who desires to know if she shall ever marry. Take the rind of two lemons, carry in the pockets all day (what if "she" hasn't a pocket?) and at night rub the rind on the four posts of the bed. In her dreams a man will appear to her who will be the future husband. If no man comes, the lemon test will doubtless be pronounced a failure. If a choice must be made between two lovers, take two apple seeds and stick one on each cheek, the one sticking the longest will indicate the man to choose.

The thing to be careful about is not to forget what names are given each seed.

We all know the old trick in which the girl had to take down her hair exactly at midnight and look steadily into the mirror by the light of one candle. Before the clock had finished striking twelve the future husband

was supposed to look over her shoulder into the glass.

An old gentleman told me that when he was a boy Hallowe'en was often called "cabbage" night, perhaps from the fact that one of the ways of finding one's true love is to go into a cabbage patch and pull off the heads, those having long, straight roots signifying life partners of fine character, with the course of true love running straight and true; but if a crooked root comes up the reverse is to be expected. Fate decrees that only one cabbage may tell the story of each one's future.

With the cabbage idea for a basis, a hostess may evolve a unique party. Many possibilities lie within a cabbage for decoration and the menu. Take great big heads, carefully remove the inside, leaving a bowl made from the outer leaves and tie around jardinières and flower pots, using one for a table centrepiece filled with fruits and field berries like mountain ash, barberry and cranberry.

Picture frames and doorways may be cleverly outlined with cabbage leaves, and electric light shades may be made from them. If there are overhead chandeliers hanging from the middle of the ceiling, dangle the very smallest cabbages head down. If possible use yellow linen place doilies, as they look well with the cabbages. Have tiny cabbage bonbon holders at each place made from several shades of crêpe paper, and have place cards cut out cabbage-shaped, tinted with watercolors and the names written in gold.

For the menu there may be cream of cabbage soup, fried oysters, and cole slaw, and a salad made from unsweetened lemon jelly in which shredded cabbage, minced celery, pimentos, and olives are used with a good stiff mayonnaise. Ice cream may be served in pretty cabbage boxes. If a prize is needed for any game, "Mrs. Wiggs of the Cabbage Patch" would be suitable.

A Cinderella Party for Hallowe'en

A YOUNG girl anxious to entertain twelve of her mates in an unusual way asked them to a "Cinderella party" by issuing cunning little pumpkin-shaped and pumpkin-colored cards bidding them to her house. The six girls were told to be there by seven-thirty, and each one firmly declined any escort from the six lads. When all the girls came they were told to select a hiding-place and tell how to get there on a card which was furnished by the hostess and taken by her and tied to a little yellow pumpkin lantern. When the boys arrived they were told to select a lantern, read the instructious upon the card and find their Cinderella. Now just imagine the merry time these "princes" had before their lassies were discovered, and alas—when found each was arrayed in a cinder-gray domino and a white mask.

All went into the big living-room with its many symbolic decorations; they roasted marshmallows and chestnuts, told stories and did such stunts as separating peas from beans, with eyes blindfolded. A prize was given the one who had the most beans in ten minutes.

Presently the fairy godmother entered with a large black roasting-pan filled with ashes, in which hidden treasures were to be found, all indicative of one's future. There were two rings, two thimbles, two buttons, two penholders, two small trunks, a heart, and a key. Just before midnight the girls went upstairs, and each one dropped a ribbon over the banister so it would reach the floor below. To the end was attached a doll's slipper. Each boy took one and wound up the ribbon till he reached the end held by the girl, who threw off her disguise just on the stroke of twelve.

The table centrepiece was Jack Horner pumpkin coach pie drawn by six toy mice harnessed with red and yellow ribbons. The favors were glass slippers filled with Hal-

lowe'en candies. Welsh rabbit on toast was served with coffee and caviar sherbet. Salted nuts, popcorn, cider, olives and raisins were in side dishes.

A Black Cat Party

THE hostess assured her guests that this "black cat" party was not merely for spinsters. She sent out cards in the shape of black cats, the writing being done in red ink, and invited her friends to "Come and find something to 'mew' over."

First, there was a "cat" contest, in which the questions were to be answered with words beginning with "cat"; then all were invited to participate in a "Cheshire cat smiling contest." A prize was given to the one whose smile measured the largest, and there was an official measurer, with his assistant, who took down the names and measurements.

The table centrepiece was a witch's caldron, presided over by a circle of witches and ghosts. "Cat-a-corner" deviled sandwiches were served with "redhots" in chafing dish, with catsup. A cat and a mouse were at each place and the candle shades were black cats laced together with red and yellow ribbon.

After refreshments all joined a jolly game of "pussy wants a corner." I forgot to say that the big black cat stuffed was on a stool in the middle of the walk, a huge Jack o' Lantern hanging over it and a placard bearing the following:

It is a sure sign of a quarrel if two persons pass on opposite sides of an object unless they say "bread and butter."

A ladder was raised over the front porch so that the guests would have to pass under it, and on the top round was another cat with this sign:

Bad luck to pass under this ladder unless you whistle.

In the dressing-room a black cat perched over the mirror bore a reminder like this: "Two people looking in a mirror must smile at each other to avoid bad luck." It is needless to say that this was a jolly party.

A Witch and Goblin Party

CHILDREN dearly love to dress up, and the party described will delight them. Ask the girls to come as witches in scarlet frocks or capes, with tall black hats, and the boys as goblins. The beloved "brownies" will serve as models for the boys' costumes. Just for this one occasion set the hours from "nine to twelve," for it really would not be a true Halloweve party if they could not stay until the "clock in the steeple strikes twelve," that witching hour when ghosts walk, when cold chills run down one's back, and that delicious creepy sensation comes when trying the charms that must be done precisely at the mysterious midnight hour. It may be a little hard on mothers and chaperons, but they must all smile and look happy on Hallowe'en night and do their part to placate the evil spirits. A cotillion with appropriate favors is the best wind-up for this party; and the guests are supposed to be from twelve to sixteen years of age.

Character Reading

THE following brief *résumés* taken from the signs of the Zodiac may be of assistance in planning for a Hallowe'en party. There are twelve signs, each one possessing its peculiar characteristics, thus we have twelve types of people. Each sign is supposed to cover a period of about one month.

JANUARY 21 TO FEBRUARY 21.

AQUARIUS.—Fond of the theater, gaiety; good money-makers. Loving, devoted natures, nervous temperaments.

February 21 to March 21.

Pisces.—Not confident, over-conscientious, interested in physical culture; a fancy for history and mechanics. Subject to headaches.

March 21 to April 20.

Executive ability, capable of great attainments. Inclined to be obstinate. Devoted to music. Illness is liable to affect the head.

April 20 to May 21.

A winner in all things, strong passions and appetites. Self-willed and vindictive. Subject to throat trouble.

May 21 to June 21.

Should be a teacher, actor, or actress. Nervous and fretful. Unjust in criticism. Artistic to a degree. Subject to heart and stomach trouble.

June 21 to July 22.

Sympathetic, affectionate, kind. Make excellent mothers and fathers. Sensitive. Subject to stomach trouble.

July 22 to August 22.

Idealizes new acquaintances, afterwards often suffers disappointment in finding them untrue. Kind and affectionate. Liable to indigestion.

August 22 to September 22.

Unusual foresight. Selfish. Determined to be the ruler. Inclined to be speculative. Fond of home and little details.

September 22 to October 23.

Good judges of horses. Wonderful foresight. Domestic in habits. Liable to stomach trouble.

October 23 to November 21.

Strong of will. Excellent appetite. Silent and inclined to be jealous and suspicious. Subject to heart trouble.

November 21 to December 21.

Fearless, bold, determined. A true friend. A fierce enemy. Subject to rheumatism.

December 21 to January 21.

A leader in everything. Practical and of a loving disposition. Extravagant in taste and ideas. Inclined to nervous diseases.

The Yarn Charm to Find Partners

One of the oldest stunts for Hallowe'en was to find one's future mate by the aid of a ball of yarn. A maiden was to take a ball of yarn and toss it through an open window and then hold the end in her hand and walk away. If she was to marry within the year, the ball would be picked up by the man inside, who began to wind up the yarn and thus draw her back to him. A young matron should use this method of finding partners for her Hallowe'en supper, which is to be served at eight-thirty. Knowing the preference of her guests, she will have the right man for each maid concealed in the garage. One at a time the girls will be given a ball of yarn, there being one ball for each girl, and she is to go alone through the yard, which is to be lighted only with "jacks" in the trees. When the man winds up his maiden, who is instructed not to drop her end no matter what happens, they will go out a rear door of the garage and into the house by a side entrance. Then the next man is slipped into the hiding-place and another girl started to meet her fate. There are to be ten couples, so this will add much to the fun and mystery. If the details as given here are not practicable, the same scheme

may be worked by throwing the ball over a transom or over a bannister down stairs.

Ghosts We All Know

A HOSTESS noted for her originality gave this party. It is rather unusual, and was loads of fun. I give a copy of the invitation:

Ye Witch of Hallowe'en
Has promised to convene
The Shades of many Notables
To meet you Monday e'en.
We'll look for you, you know,
To help to make things go,
And incidentally to meet
Some Ghosts you're sure to know.

There were only twenty guests, and over the telephone the hostess explained that she wished each to come dressed to represent some famous person now dead, pantomime, words, gestures and costume being used in the impersonation. Dressed as a witch, the hostess received her "ghosts" in a room draped all in white, even a canvas covering the floor. Cathedral candles on mantel, piano, and bookcase furnished the light. For a while not a word was spoken; then a little scarlet-dressed imp passed slips of paper and white pencils on which the ghosts wrote who was who. One ghost represented Diogenes vainly looking for an honest man. He carried a lantern made from a squash and sadly shook his head. There was Cleopatra with an asp; Shakespeare with a huge ruff of white paper; Napoleon in a cocked hat, with folded arms; Columbus with a map in his hand; Queen Elizabeth and Sir Walter Raleigh in the famous coat and pool of water act; Milton and George Washington, Abraham Lincoln, and others. The prize to the ghost who recognized the greatest number of his fellow shades was a handsomely bound copy of John Kendrick Bangs's

"Ghosts I Have Met." A jolly supper, with ghost favors at each plate, followed.

A Hallowe'en Table

The centre of attraction at most parties is the table, and I have never seen anything carried out more in the spirit of the occasion than this scheme, which was much talked about as being the "best ever" by those who saw it. The centrepiece was an enormous pumpkin with a row of candles in the top, where it had been cut almost in halves to form a basket with a cleverly cut handle, which was twined with vines. It contained a bunch of grapes for each person, to which was tied a favor symbolic of the guest's future life, such as a coin for wealth, a pen for a literary career, thimble for spinster, a button for a bachelor, etc.

Over the table, mingled with ferns, leaves, and vines, were spiders, toads, glittering silver snakes, owls, cats, and quaint brownie figures. These objects were really a great attraction as the candle light shone upon them. Just try the decorative possibilities in squash, cucumbers, gourds, carrots, and pumpkins. They make fine candle sticks and lanterns.

When all were seated, the hostess passed small silk bags containing white beans. These were laid out, and fortunes told by the following nursery rhyme, using the beans instead of buttons. Your fortune will be—

Rich man, poor man, beggarman, thief.
Doctor, lawyer, merchant, chief.

Or a

Rich girl, poor girl, beggar girl, crook.
School girl, cash girl, servant, cook.

For the wedding the time will be indicated by—

This year, next year, some time, no time.

And the house will be a—

Big house, little house, hotel, barn.

To the great surprise of the guests, the first course consisted of green peas in little bowls, which were eaten with butter, salt and pepper. In one bowl was a large bean, signifying that the one finding it would be the first to marry. This is an English custom and is called "scaddin the peas." It is a quaint doing still kept up in the north of England.

Before leaving the table each one received five bay leaves to be pinned on the four corners of the pillow with one in the centre, each one to receive the name of the opposite sex, the one dreamed of would of course be the future mate through life. These bay leaves the hostess had brought from Florida, pressing them in a heavy book and keeping in a cool place. Next, every one had to eat a round rosy snow apple and keep the seeds, which were snapped between the thumb and fore finger, the direction in which they flew being supposed to tell in which direction one's true love lived. During this test the following jingle was repeated:

Pippin, pippin, paradise,
Tell me where my true love lies,
East, west, north or south.

After leaving the table each guest took a candle and placed it in an open window, first silently naming it. If the flame flickers it denotes fickleness, but a clear, bright flame augurs well, for love will be like it; if the flame goes out all hope dies at the same time.

A Dear Hunt

Boys and girls are asked to come separately, the girls half an hour earlier than the boys. Each girl was provided with a slip of paper or card on which her name

was written. They were then hidden all over the house, in cellar and attic, and when the boys arrived there was no sign of them.

The boys were met at the door by a ghost, who directed them to the reception-room. When all had arrived the scheme was explained to them and they were told to hunt the "dears." As each girl was found she gave up the slip of paper to the boy who found her, and in the end the boy who had the most slips was awarded the prize.

Then games were played until supper time. The dining-room was transformed into a forest, with branches and leaves and hidden under the leaves were numerous pumpkins, in each of which was supper for two. The boys were told to find their pumpkins, and inside of each was the name of their partner. Every one had to sit on the floor to eat. Cider was served in gourds which had been hollowed out.

After supper all were asked upstairs by the two "ghosts." The attic had been transformed to a forest, and in the centre was a pool surrounded by death's heads, etc. The "ghosts" presided over this pool. Each couple had to go up to the attic alone, promise never to reveal what happened, and agree to do as the "ghosts" requested. The "ghosts" allowed you to look into the pool, drink a mixture of salt and water, and after they had muttered over the death's head allowed you to kiss it and make a wish. Then each couple had to go down the attic stairs backwards and keep still for five minutes, during which time the charm worked.

Jingles for Hallowe'en Invitations

The witch cat wears its mystic ring,
The black bat spreads its gruesome wing,
Hobgoblins weirdly chant and sing
On Hallowe'en!

Come, help us break enchantment's spell,
Down by the fairies' wishing well,
Where elves our good-luck fortunes tell
On Hallowe'en!

Puck, the sprite,
Weaves to-night
Cobwebs bright.
Come and learn
Fate's concern
By the fern!

Vampires and jack-o'-lanterns jolly
Bid you unto All-Hallow's folly!
Hither come by dark o' moon!
You cannot join the fun too soon.

On Tuesday night,
If the moon shines bright,
Join the ghostly band
From No Man's Land!
Feel no alarm!
We've found a charm
To keep off harm!

Hist! You are bid
By elf and sprite
To learn what's hid
On nutcrack night!
Come when the town clock striketh nine,
And fun and frolic shall be thine!

In a nutshell lies your fate,
Come and learn it ere too late!
Come around on nutcrack night,
Dressed from top to toe in white.

Hallowe'en high jinks
At sign of
The Jolly Jack-o'-Lanterns!
Hallowe'en at midnight
When the owl hoots.

The Chestnut Lad and the Chestnut Lass
Will give a roast on Hallowmass!
Your fortune they will tell, alas!
With applebobs and looking-glass.
So trip it lightly o'er our grass
Before the seventh hour shall pass!

"Hear ye, O hear ye!"
Jack the Herald cries.
"Come around on Hallowe'en
To the great surprise!
There'll be fun and impish glee.
Haste, and join our company."

Mr. Jack-o'-Lantern
Requests the pleasure of
Miss Blank's
Company at a weird merry-making
On All-Hallow's Eve,
Tuesday, the thirty-first of October,
At half-past seven o'clock,
At the Old Haunted Barn in
Hobgoblin Hollow.

Hallowe'en Masquerade Menu

Cup of Destiny
(Bouillon, with spaghetti letters spelling "Wealth," "Health," "Travel," "Long Life," etc.)
Sunken Treasures (Fried Oysters).
Mystic Mixture (Chicken Salad).
Oriental Offering (Olives).
Chills (Ice Cream), Witches' Brew (Coffee).
Silent Oracle (Hallowe'en cake, with ring, penny, etc.).

Pomona's Potion (Fruit Punch).
Fruits of the Forest (Nuts).
Twists and Turns (Pretzels).
Magic Circles (Cookies).
Goblin Gold (Yellow Buttercups).

Banshee Broth (Clam Bouillon).
Caldron Compound (Curry of Chicken).

Drifted Snow (Mashed Potatoes).
Garden Emeralds (Peas).
Orchard Offering (Apple Salad).
Mystic (Tutti Frutti) Jelly
Witches' Brew (Coffee).

A Superstitious Dinner

This scheme is good at any time, as it always makes loads of fun, especially if one intends having dinner on Hallowe'en. The centrepiece may be of any desired flowers in a low bowl which may stand on a round mirror, and it may be surrounded by a floral horseshoe. Have the name cards in shape of four-leaved clovers, to which attach bright new "lucky pennies." Put vermicelli letters in the clear bouillon for the first course, each cup having "Good Luck" inscribed in tiny initials. With the dessert the hostess reads the following jingles, the guests having the answers:

I.

When foam appears on coffee cup
Why make haste to gather up:
(Money.)

II.

Why court the dream-god when in bed
With wedding cake beneath thy head?
(Dreams come true.)

III.

When thirteen sit at table spread
What awful happening do we dread?
(A death before the year is ended.)

IV.

When with household tasks o'erwhelming
One would frown on any more,
What the penalty for dropping
Dainty dishcloth on the floor?
(Unexpected company.)

V.

When salt is spilled alas! alack!
How may we avert the scrap?
(Throw salt over the left shoulder.)

VI.

When double knives are at one place
And double forks at t'other,
What doubting may we then look for
At one time or another?
(A wedding in the family.)

VII.

Why do maidens hesitate
To take the last piece from the plate?
(Be an old maid.)

VIII.

When stem of leaf appears in tea
What good fortune may it be?
(A welcome visitor is coming.)

IX.

If pack of cards and Bible lie
Beneath thy head at night,
What vision will appear in dreams
To thy astonished sight?
(Future life partner.)

X.

If you should sing before you break your fast
Why will you rue it ere the day is past?
(Cry before night.)

Each guest was asked to relate her favorite superstition; also to tell any true mystery tale.

A Bête Noire Dance

Did you ever attend a *Bête Noire* party? Well, they are great fun. Of course, every one knows that "*bête noire*" is the French for whatever a person detests or cordially hates. So all the guests appeared wearing what to them was their greatest horror. There were prizes

for the ones who portrayed their *bête noire* to the best advantage. Here are a few of the objects represented, and whoever gives an affair may enlarge upon the suggestions here jotted down in my note book. A dainty miss had snakes of all sizes wrapped around her arms, her waist, and even in her hair and on her slippers. They were of paper and purchased at the Japanese counter of a department store. An unmarried girl of uncertain age convulsed the crowd when she appeared with a fringe of lemons around a green overskirt and passed lemons, which were candy boxes filled with candy in exact imitation of lemon quarters. A sedate man came wearing a wig of blonde hair and was profusely rouged and powdered. One woman wore cigars and cigarettes, and one wore mice dangling everywhere. A man who created a hearty laugh appeared with small sample whisky and beer bottles; and another masculine being noted for his extremely plain dressing had quantities of paste jewelry, a huge diamond stud and ring. After all the dislikes had been examined and discussed the articles were removed and placed on a table, where they were dispensed as favors in the impromptu cotillon which closed the very unique entertainment. The ballroom was decorated with lanterns and all sorts of weird favors like mechanical spiders, owls, etc. I think such an affair would be especially suitable for Hallowe'en.

A Ghost Party

This affair makes a most delightful party for the thirty-first, full of enjoyment and fun if all the guests enter into the spirit as all proper ghosts should do. Issue the invitations on black cards with figures outlined on them in black ink. In one corner write: "Bring a sheet and pillow case." Provide pieces of white cotton cloth from which to make masks and plenty of pins both

safety and otherwise. Then you must have a couple of good assistants for both men and women. As the guests arrive take one at a time into the dressing room, drape the sheet, pin securely, tie with a tape around the waist, put on the face mask, snipping the holes for eyes, nose and mouth. Then take the pillow, fold it over the forehead and pin behind, nun fashion. It only takes a few moments to do all this.

Have your rooms hung with white draperies, use only candlelight. Of course the object is to make out who is who. Dance the old-fashioned Virginia reel, quadrilles and lancers. Then give each one paper and pencil to see who can obtain the most autographs in ten minutes. Each person tries to disguise the voice as much as possible. The one who gets the most names correctly is given a prize.

After unmasking, fortune-telling may occupy an hour. A good palmist may not be procured in a small town, but there are so many books on the subject that almost any one could study up for the occasion. Cutting a mould of flour is always a pretty way of foretelling future events. Prepare it by filling a large bowl of pastry flour, then turning it out on a platter. In the mould have concealed a ring, coin, thimble and a button. Each guest is to cut a slice with a dinner knife; the ring signifies marriage in a year; coin, means a fortune; the thimble and money foretell an unwedded life.

A wheel of fortune is interesting also, and easily made. Take a large piece of pasteboard, make a circle of black and then at regular intervals like on a clock face, write "journey," "success," "true love," "early marriage," "health," "happiness," etc. Fasten an indicator through the cardboard, then by whirling this around the guest's fortune is told by the word the indicator stops at or nearest. Tea grounds and cards are always fascinating,

and it is well to ask one person to be "up" on these lines, for it adds much to the interest if these prognostications are made impromptu.

A Hallowe'en Party

HALLOWE'EN is the important day in the social calendar of our young people, and it surely is the day par excellence on which to entertain.

Invitations written backward will be a novelty and mystify the recipients besides giving them some work to do before they formulate a reply. Here is a jingle to write in this way:

Hallowe'en comes but once a year,
Over at my house you will find good cheer;
I shall certainly expect you at a quarter to eight;
Later than that ghosts will have fastened the gate.

Of course the outside envelopes must be properly addressed, but inside "Miss Mary Brown" will become "Nworb Yram Ssim."

To begin the fun, have a real old-fashioned candy pull; in fact, use the kitchen instead of the drawing-room for novelty is what the evening calls for. Then have a tub full of water, which shall represent the "sea of life"; on it launch boats made of English walnut shells, split in halves, each bearing a little candle. If the light burns brightly and the tiny craft steers away from the other boats, has no mishaps from tidal waves, a happy life is predicted for the owner; if two boats float side by side, life interests will be mutual. If a boat clings to the side of the tub, the owner will not go far from home, but if it sails out on the sea, a long journey is predicted. Do not try to float many boats at a time.

Get a large bag and in it put as many small bags as there are girls present. Let each maiden draw one, and the contents will determine the occupation of her future

husband. Here is a list of articles to put in the bag: Small bottle, indicating a doctor or a druggist; a tiny roll of cloth, a tailor or merchant tailor; an anchor, a naval officer; book or pen, indicates a journalist or an author; a camera, a photographer, etc. Wind a ball of gaily colored twine; in the winding put in a few small articles; toss the ball to a person and tell him or her that a story must be told while the string is being unwound and continue until an article is reached; then the ball is tossed to some one else, who must go on with the narrative. By this time it will be near midnight and time to serve refreshments.

CHAPTER XI.—PASTIMES FOR NOVEMBER

THANKSGIVING is generally believed to have commenced with the advent of the Pilgrim fathers, and is, therefore, a legacy to us from New England. But when the true facts in the case come to light we find that Thanksgiving Day was first celebrated by Popham colonists at Monhegan, who joined in "Gyving God thanks" for their safe arrival and many blessings in the ritual laid down in the Thanksgiving service of the Church of England prayer book. It is known with what antipathy the early Puritans regarded any and all of the holy days of the English church, and the celebration of such was sternly forbidden in New England.

How many of us know that days for giving thanks were set apart in Europe long before the Reformation and were observed by the Church of England many years before the Pilgrims landed?

The first Thanksgiving in this country was not set apart as a day of religious observance, but for recreation. On the eleventh of December, 1621, Edward Winslow wrote home to England the following very quaint account of the week's programme:

"Our harvest being gotten in, our governor sent four men out fowling so we might in a special manner rejoice together after we had gathered in the fruits of our labors. The four killed so much fowl that with a little help served the company about a week. Among other recreations were exercises with our arms. Many of the Indians came amongst us, and among them their greatest king Massasoit with some ninety men, whom we for

three days feasted and entertained. They went out and killed five deer, which they brought in and bestowed on our governor, upon the captains and others."

So we get a good idea of the hospitality offered in those days. We learn, too, from Governor Bradford, that wild turkeys were plentiful, so we feel a reasonable assurance that the turkey has a long and ancient lineage and prestige not to be usurped by any other bird on our Thanksgiving Day platter.

Only fifty-five English-speaking people sat down to the first Thanksgiving feast, but the addition of the Indians made a goodly company for whom the poor, lonely, and homesick women prepared the dinner. There were only four of them, with one servant "and a few young maidekins." There is no record to be found of any religious worship during this week of feasting.

In 1628 the second Thanksgiving Day was ordered and observed by the Pilgrim fathers. Early Thanksgivings are not always celebrated in November nor upon Thursday, and it is not until 1677 that we find the first printed Thanksgiving proclamation, now owned by the Massachusetts Historical Society. It is interesting to note that since 1862 the President of the United States has set the last Thursday in November to be observed as a day of Thanksgiving. And harking back to Pilgrim days, what a vast difference: Compare the harvest then and the harvest now. Whether our forefathers were ever actually reduced to the traditional five grains of corn each, is a fact not decided by history, but it is true that they returned thanks for the most meagre fare and endured the most grinding hardships without a murmur. Like our forebears, we make of the day a great time for feasting and games and not so much of church going. It is a day for family reunions and a day of abundant opportunity for making a cause of Thanksgiving in the "other fellow's" heart.

Thanksgiving Centrepiece

HERE is a new way of using a lovely yellow pumpkin. Select one of rather long shape, cut in halves lengthwise and hollow out to look like an old-time vessel (look at a print of the Mayflower); put in gilded masts and, if possible, make sails of a scrap of white silk. Do the name "Mayflower" in gilt, and load the pretty craft with fruits—grapes, small red apples, etc. The effect is good, especially if the boat is set on a small box or tin and the base covered with autumn leaves and vines; or a foundation of chrysanthemums would be appropriate, as they are the November flower. Before putting the fruits in the pumpkin, line it carefully with waxed paper.

A tablepiece that children love is made by having several small Indian tepees with miniature Indians; surround with alternate red and white ears of corn, making the outline of a star. At toy shops small animals such as deer, dogs, chickens, and turkeys may be found to add to this scene, and figures of John Alden and Priscilla could be added.

Thanksgiving Tea

A RECEPTION or tea on this festival day is distinguished chiefly by appropriate decorations, costumes and refreshments. The rooms may be completely transformed by taking down all the portières and other draperies and replacing them with others made of cranberries strung on a stout, red thread. Popcorn strung and alternating with the berries makes a pleasing effect. Strings of cranberries are very pretty festooned over white window curtains.

Cover lamps and all gas and electric lights with shades made from red, white, and blue crêpe tissue paper and for stools and divans have large pumpkins; they are very comfortable and are admirably adapted for the purpose.

The usual refreshments are served with the addition of pumpkin chips and the bonbons in the national colors. To make pumpkin chips,—which are quite a novelty—select a deep-colored pumpkin, peel and slice very thin; to each pound of chips add a pound of sugar and a gill of lemon juice, with the grated lemon rind; stir well and let them stand over night; cook very slowly until tender; then skim the chips out, let them stand two days to get firm, then put them in a jar with just enough sirup to keep them moist. These are often taken for an expensive imported preserve. No one recognizes the plebeian pumpkin. Spices may be added if liked.

Hot spiced cider or a cider frappé may be served, and cranberry ice cream is delicious in flavor and looks. The sandwiches should be of minced turkey, and the flowers red and white carnations with cornflowers or bachelors' buttons, as they are blue.

If individual moulds are desired for the ice cream, there are cunning little turkeys, and all sorts of vegetables. Sheafs of wheat tied with the national colors are very decorative over arch and doorways.

A programme of music consisting of patriotic airs would be a diversion suitable for the occasion.

It would be attractive to have six girls dressed in colonial costumes to assist in receiving and to "pour" in the dining room, also to preside at the frappé bowl.

Pastimes for Thanksday

After dinner try some of these schemes for amusement. Give each guest a clay pipe, some soft, workable putty, blue, black and buff crêpe paper with which to fashion a Continental soldier; allow fifteen minutes, and award a prize. Take squares of card-board and trace with an unthreaded needle outlines of drums, flags, cannon, and muskets for the children to work in red, white,

and blue cotton or worsted. They love this work, and it keeps the busy little creatures still after the big dinner and aids digestion. Offer a prize. Another stunt the youngsters love is building forts from sandpaper and blocks. Give them colonial names and get in a bit of history in this way. Then let them have marbles or golf-balls to roll and knock down the forts. If there are enough children to divide into sides they will have a fine time while the older members of the family "reminiscence."

Here is a game in which all may participate: Select ten small articles, say nuts, corn kernels, wrapped bonbons; seat the players in two lines opposite each other; at the head of the line and at the foot place a table or taboret. The game is to pass the articles, one at a time, to each player until all are on the table, the other side to pass them back down the line. This must be done rapidly, the side making the best time having the prize. This is loads of fun and children love it.

For Thanksgiving Day

A YEARLY custom observed in the evening of each Thanksgiving Day is so interesting I want to tell about it. There are six families with their connections, all relatives, either distant or close, who meet at the old-fashioned home of one they call "great aunt." On these occasions all the old heirlooms are brought forth, the fireplace in the dining-room is festooned with dried apple strings and red peppers. Apples, nuts, cider, and popcorn are served informally, and the first ceremony is counting up the "mercies" of the year. Every one is obliged to take part in this. There is no light save from the logs in the fireplace and a few candles in brass sticks, some having the tall glass shades one finds in New Or-

leans. After this a huge loving cup is passed, and all join hands standing up, saying with bowed heads:

God bless you and God bless me,
God bless us every one.

A simple repast is served, with no servants in evidence, as this is a time when the children are permitted to dress in costumes representing the "Pilgrim fathers and mothers," and they serve the feast. They first all stand around the candle-lit table and eat their five kernels of parched corn in memory of the time when all our forefathers had for which to be thankful was the few grains of seed corn, enough to allot only five grains to each person. At the close of this supper a child is chosen to repeat Elbert Brewster's glorious admonition to the Pilgrims when he bade them be true to their promise. I quote it here, for it is worthy of being read by every one on the coming festival day:

"Blessed will it be for us, blessed for this land, for this vast continent. Nay, from generation to generation will the blessings descend. Generations to come will look back to this hour and these scenes of agonizing trial, to this day of small things, and say: 'Here was our beginning as a people. These were our forefathers. Through their trials we inherit our blessings. Their faith is our faith, their hope our hope, their God our God.'"

Seems to me this is a splendid way of impressing historical facts upon the minds of our young people, and it does us older ones lots of good to turn our minds and hearts backwards, remembering the times when this fair land was not what it is to-day and to say a prayer of thankfulness for those who laid the foundation on such a sound basis that we may with grateful hearts celebrate our Thanksgiving Day.

Saint Catherine's Day

If anyone happens to be entertaining on the twenty-fifth of November, it might be well to remember that it is Saint Catherine's day. This occasion has long been a fête day in France, Italy, and England. This early Christian woman was the patron saint of Venice and of spinsters and belles lettres. In Paris this day is called "Old Maids' day"; the young girls as well as maids of uncertain age carry bouquets to the churches to be laid on the altar for Saint Catherine and offer their prayers for a good husband. In England, at Milton Abbey, this is the prayer offered:

A husband Saint Catherine;
A handsome one, St. Catherine;
A rich one, Saint Catherine;
A nice one, St. Catherine;
And soon, St. Catherine.

The following requirements are the ones that Saint Catherine is supposed to have formulated for the man she could or would marry, but not finding this paragon of virtue she was forced to remain single:

He must be nobly born; he must be great, handsome, and benign.

Seems to me there is foundation in this suggestion for a pretty addition to a feminine luncheon or afternoon; the Italian colors might be used and spaghetti served in ramekins with fruit, chocolate and cheese sandwiches. If any of the readers do have a Saint Catherine party I would be very glad to have a description for the department. There are many interesting special days observed across the water of which we busy, practical people are in ignorance; many of them would add a touch of novelty to our ofttimes humdrum affairs.

Football Spread

THE captain of a popular football team is going to entertain his 'leven after the game, and here is the way his doting mother has planned it. The team's colors, orange and blue, are to predominate and will be in evidence in huge tarlatan bows on the backs of the chairs, alternating orange and blue. The centrepiece will be a large football filled with yellow chrysanthemums, and the individual favors will be small footballs. The place cards will be of brown cardboard cut in shape of footballs with this quotatiton:

I have prepared a feast. Lay on, MacDuff. And damned be he that first cries "Hold, enough!"

On the inside, this menu, which she fortunately found in an old magazine and adapted to her purpose:

Quick Down Shorts
(Oysters on the Shell)

Bleachers
(Celery)

Soaked to O'Brien
(Olives)

Don't Chew
(Consomme)

Good Catch
(Broiled Halibut)

Grounders
(Potato Croquettes)

Tame Game With Fudge Hitting
(Fillet of Beef, with Mushrooms)

Hot Shot
(Peas)

Done Brown
(Salsify Fritters)

Hit It Hard
(Lemon Sorbet)

A Fowl Tip
(Roast Squab)

A Cold Deal
(Bisque Ice)

Stand Up to the Plate
(Cake)

Tie Game
(Cheese)

A Crummy Lot
(Crackers)

Wet Grounds
(Coffee)

Ice cream was moulded in shape of footballs and then rolled in ground nut and cocoa to look just like the real thing.

A Chrysanthemum Party

A CARD is given to each guest with a chrysanthemum attached, with the word "Chrysanthemum" prettily lettered in gold. Instructions are given to make as many words as possible from the letters. The prize is a bunch of chrysanthemums or a potted plant. As they are the November flower this pastime is especially fitting. Serve ice cream in chrysanthemum tissue paper cases. This scheme could follow a card party while the hostess is preparing refreshments, or is suitable for a church social.

Toasts and Sentiments for the Thanksday Feast

THE American Eagle;
The Thanksgiving Turkey.
May one give us peace in all our States,
And the other a piece for all our plates.
—E. H. HOLMES.

O, beautiful and grand,
My own Native Land,
Of thee I boast;
Great Empire of the West,
The dearest and best,
Made up of all the rest,
I love thee most.
—ABRAHAM COLES—My Native Land.

My dear, my native soil!
For whom my warmest wish to Heav'n is sent,
Long may thy hardy sons of rustic toil
Be blest with health and sweet content!

God grants liberty only to those who love it, and are always ready to guard and defend it.—DANIEL WEBSTER, Speech, June 3, 1834.

A brave man's country is wherever he chooses his abode.—QUINTIUS CURTIUS RUFUS.

Our country is that spot to which our heart is bound.—VOLTAIRE.

In the beauty of the lilies Christ was born across the sea,
With a glory in his bosom that transfigures you and me;
As he died to make men holy, let us die to make men free,
While God is marching on.

—JULIA WARD HOWE.

Lo! body and soul!—this land!
Mighty Manhattan, with spires, and
The sparkling and hurrying tides,
And the ships;
The varied and ample land—the south
And the north in the light—Ohio's shores,
And flashing Missouri,
And ever the far spreading prairies,
Covered with grass and corn.

—WALT WHITMAN.

When Freedom from her mountain height
Unfurled her standard to the air,
She tore the azure robe of night,
And set the stars of glory there.

—JOSEPH RODMAN DRAKE.

Of all human things nothing is more honorable or more excellent than to deserve well of one's country—CICERO.

America! half brother of the world!
With something good and bad of every land.

—BAILEY.

America has furnished to the world the character of Washington! And if our American institutions had done nothing else, that alone would have entitled them to the respect of mankind.—DANIEL WEBSTER, Completion of Bunker Hill Monument, June 17, 1843.

A Chrysanthemum Luncheon

This affair was gorgeously brilliant, the color scheme being yellow; especially fitting for this month, as November claims the topaz and the chrysanthemum; in this instance it was also the bride's birthday month as well as her wedding day season. For a centrepiece there was a mound of yellow "mums," kept in place by embedding the stems in sand. At each place there was a little yellow jardinière containing one stiff, straight little yellow "mum" to which the name card was attached with a yellow ribbon. The grape fruit cock-tail had a wee "mum" in the centre of the fruit; around the stem of the glass there was a fluffy bow of white tulle. The plates on which the frappé glasses stood had a wreath of yellow "mums" around them and the ice-cream was in boxes concealed by petals of yellow crêpe paper "mums." The candle-sticks were of silver and had yellow shades. At each place were yellow slippers filled with salted nuts

A Harvest Home Party

In Sweden they make a ceremony of bringing in the last sheaf of wheat, signifying that the "summer is over and the harvest ended." With this in mind, a hostess who is noted for her originality issued invitations for a "Harvest Home" party at her place in the country. It is now quite the thing not to return to town until the first of November, so the beautiful foliage and the glories of autumn are enjoyed to the full. At this party, which was given last year, too late to get in the department owing to the fact that it must be made up several weeks in advance, the house and spacious verandas were literally covered with gorgeous oak and maples leaves, as was the lower floor of the great barn, where dancing took place at eight o'clock. The hours were from five

to ten, which just permitted the making of trains to and from the city.

A novel feature was the playing of the band composed of the workmen on the place. They were mostly Germans, and as each department had its own foreman, with helpers the organization was quite complete as well as unique. They played for the dancing, and to a most stirring march they led the gay party to the last sheaf of wheat in the field. It was laid in the pony cart belonging to the ten-year-old daughter of the house, who drove the prettily decorated pony into the barn. The sheaf was placed in the middle of the cleanly swept floor, and the hostess paid a tribute to Ceres, a health being drunk in mulled cider made on the place and served by the hostess. After a supper of fried chicken, boiled ham, hot muffins, rice, and tomatoes, cooked together with shrimp (which the colored cook said was "Jumbalaya"), tea, coffee, Macedoine of vegetable, salad, and pumpkin pie, the dancing began. After a few informal dances there was what the hostess called a Farmers' cotillon, because all the figures pertained to work on the farm, and the favors consisted of big straw hats, sunbonnets, whips, milking stools, tin pails, spades, rakes, hoes, etc. It was all very original and pretty. Cider frappé was on hand for the dancers.

A November Leaf Party

An exceedingly novel party has just been brought to my notice. In the country, where the leaves remain much longer on the trees than in the city, a hostess, noted for her original ideas, viewing her leaf-covered lawn, was seized with this clever scheme. Why not make the raking of the leaves into a frolic?

No sooner thought of than the telephone was called into service and five couples, all good friends, had been

asked for the following Saturday afternoon. Old clothing and warm gloves were the only conditions imposed. Partners were chosen by rakes, which were tied with ribbons, two of each color.

Then work began, and after each couple had a big pile the hostess asked that a specimen of each variety of leaf be brought into the house. Then there was an impromptu contest to see who could recognize the most varieties. A picnic luncheon was served and bonfires were built after dark. Then all gathered round a grate fire and told stories, roasted chestnuts and apples, and all asked to be included in another "leaf party" the next fall.

The place cards were in the shape of leaves, done in wood browns with gold lettering. By the way, this same hostess is giving little Norway pine trees in six-inch pots for Christmas gifts. Capital idea.

A November Party

At a country place where the family remained until the late fall days this charming party was given. On the invitations was this appropriate line always associated with this month: "The melancholy days are come, the saddest of the year." The guests were asked to appear in country costumes, so it was indeed a motley throng that assembled; there were village belles, a typical old maid, the village gossip, etc., and then there was the country parson, the village storekeeper, the happy farmer "Rube," and a large representation of his friends. Supper was served at small tables in rooms decorated with sheafs of wheat, corn stalks, pumpkins, squash, and ears of corn.

Lanterns, lamps, and candles were used for lighting, and a cotillion was danced in the big barn, which was immaculately clean. The favors were large straw hats

for the men, sunbonnets for the girls, and all sorts of farm implements. Cider frappé was in an immense tub decorated with autumn leaves. At midnight a corn roast wound up the festivities, after first shucking the corn to see who would get the lucky red ear, which is supposed to bring luck to the finder. The guests who lived in the neighborhood were sent home in a big farm wagon drawn by four horses, with liveried footman and driver in attendance. Many of the young people remained all night, and it was the jolliest house party imaginable.

CHAPTER XII.—PASTIMES FOR DECEMBER

O Christmas! merry Christmas! It's not so very long
Since other voices blended with the carol and the song.
If we could but hear them singing as they are singing now,
If we could but see the radiance of the crown on each dear brow,
There would be no sigh to smother, no hidden tear to flow,
As we listen in the starlight to the bells across the snow.

—Frances Ridley Havergal.

FEELING sure that the above lines will be full of comfort to many a reader, I place them where they may be read first, so that those of us who have known deep sorrow and have been with those whose hearts are broken, torn, and bleeding as they see the vacant chair and the link broken in the family circle, will at least try to realize what a blessed message Christmas brings to us.

We may all have the Christmas spirit that came with the Christ child when he said: "It is more blessed to give than to receive." Even now, this very day, we make a merry Christmas for some child, for our families, and for our friends, by forgetting ourselves and for the one day thinking entirely of some one else. As the noted musician, Mrs. H. H. A. Beach, said a long time ago: "Let us have plenty of music at Christmas-time, bright, joyous music for hearts that are full of happiness, but also some tender, comforting, deeply sympathetic strains for the brave souls who even on this glad day are battling with sorrow."

At this season we are all more than keen regarding

holiday affairs. Whether we are old or young, there is something in the very air that stirs us and makes us want to do things. Agnes Greene Foster says:

Every day is a king's birthday
When Love is born.
And best of all along life's way
The King comes to rest and stay,
When Love is born.

This is very true, but not many of us stop to think and apply it. Now, with the Christmas spirit pervading the atmosphere, we all are trying to celebrate the King's birthday in one way or another. Where there are children in the family it is impossible not to become imbued with the joys which the coming of the Christ child brings. We all want to play Santa Claus, to hang up our stockings, to dress dolls, and make all sorts of delectable goodies.

GAMES FOR CHRISTMAS DAY

Christmas Snowballs

PREPARE as many snowballs as there are guests. Make them by using a small toy or favor for the centre, wind it with cotton until round in shape, then wrap in white tissue paper, dip in mucilage or liquid glue, then in diamond dust. These will dry over night and be ready for use the next day. Decorate two market baskets with holly and red ribbon and place on two chairs at the end of the room. Divide the company into equal sides, drop the balls in two long rows equally distant from each other, and at the word "Go" the children start from the chairs and get the farthest ball first. The side getting all the balls back into the basket wins. It just makes a jolly time and each child has a ball to keep. It makes

a little novelty in distributing the favors, and the children dearly love to tear open the balls and find the treasures inside. All the scraps of paper may be picked up and put in the baskets.

The "Magic Bag" is something children just love. Take red tissue paper, glue the sides together, fill with very light favors like red snapping crackers, bonbons wrapped in gilt and silver paper, wee baskets, etc., and suspend by red and green ribbons from a centre light or doorway. Blindfold a child, hand him a stout cane, turn the little blind man around three times, get the other children out of the way and tell him to strike three times. If he hits and breaks the bag all well and good, if not some one else tries. When the bag does break, the blind man removes the bandage and scrambles, too. All must have a share in the spoils.

How many have ever played the game of the Christmas Candle? Try it and get all the grown people in it, for it is so very funny. Of course, it goes without saying that children will not attempt to play this without an older person, for I do not want to be responsible for any fires or burned fingers. This pastime comes to us from our English cousins and was a favorite away back in the time of Queen Elizabeth.

Get a nice, long, fat candle, such as we see on church altars, light it and choose one child to be the candle-bearer and another to be the "blower." Blindfold the latter, turn her around three times, and then tell her to blow out the candle. Just as likely as not she will start off in the opposite direction, while all the others giggle. If a long candle is not at hand take one of the little artificial trees that come with several lights. They will burn long enough for one trial. A little prize may be offered to the successful blower.

For the Birds' Christmas

Do not forget our little feathered friends but give them a Christmas tree. If you had not thought of it before, plan for one just as soon as you read this. If there are children in the household they will love the idea; if not (more the pity), some of your grown-ups.

Take some suet and bones, some cracked nuts, some bread crumbs, even raw oatmeal or any of the uncooked breakfast foods, and scatter in the yard; tie bits of the suet to trees with a red apple or two. Then go inside and watch the delighted guests. In the North the chickadees, woodpeckers, bluejays, and sparrows ought to abound in grateful throngs.

Don't forget the squirrels; put out some nuts, even though they have helped to destroy our gardens. They often have a hard time to exist when the snow is deep. At Christmas time we all should remember our dumb friends.

Pretty Christmas Table

The arrangement of this table was quite unusual, inasmuch as it was an old-fashioned square one, lengthened to accommodate twelve children. It was pushed back against the wall, and at the back was the largest sized Yule log candy box resting on a bed of holly and mistletoe. On top of the log was a doll dressed as a jester, called the "Lord of Misrule," and attached to the front end of the log by red ribbons were six dolls dressed to represent the first six months of the year. Following after the log were six more figures dressed like the last six months.

At each plate was a holly paper-covered horn and a wee tree lit with red wax tapers. The children were to blow out the candles, making a wish for each one. If they go out with the very first puff, the wish will come

true. A white and red Christmas ribbon goes to each plate, fastened by a spray of holly, then each child looks at the dolls and says which one he thinks represents the month in which he was born. If there should be two in the same month, the one who is the older gets the doll for that month; as there is one for each guest a satisfactory adjustment is easily made. The Yule log also contains small favors for each guest.

A Mistletoe Tea

How would you like to give a mistletoe tea when your college girl friends are all home for vacation? Just use Christmas greens with an abundance of mistletoe. Suspend from every doorway, and exclusively white candles with white hyacinths on the dining-room table. Serve pineapple ice with white iced cakes, white bonbons, chicken sandwiches, tea, and coffee. Have a wee maiden, dressed as a little snow fairy, give each guest a spray of mistletoe and be sure to ask all the boys you know to drop in at five o'clock for a cup of tea, and I assure you the affair will be a success.

A Peppermint Stick Table

Somehow candy canes and stick candy always seem a part of Christmas. Try this for a novel table decoration and game combined. Make a tripod of three good-sized candy canes, from which suspend a basket filled with smaller canes. Radiate canes from this centre to each plate. Lay a stick of candy on a cutting table for each guest, with a supply of dainty papers, stickers, fancy cords, and narrow ribbon. Allow fifteen or twenty minutes to dress these stick dolls, which may be called "Minties" or "Aunt Minty." They make very good dolls and are quite attractive to hang on the Christmas tree. A lot might be made up to go in baskets to poor children or be sent to asylums.

Christmas Frolics

After dinner, when the extreme novelty of the gifts has worn off, there is an hour yet before the youngsters go to bed, and for this very time, aptly called the "wild-cat" hour by a young mother of three, I have been saving these ideas to be worked out with the help of the elder members of the family. Let no guilty mortal think he can escape, for Christmas belongs to the children "till six o'clock at night from any old hour in the morning."

In ancient times the day used to end with a wild, rollicking "hobby-horse dance." The company would hastily rig up in improvised costumes—the funnier the better—and every man had to ride a hobby horse made from a broom, cane, or even a poker. In this manner all participated in the Virginia reel, danced to a good, lively tune. A post-card search was devised by the grandmother of the house as an ending to a long, happy day. She hid cards in every conceivable place within reach of the children. As they were all ardent collectors and the spoils were to be individual property, there was no time lost in getting the pretty cards from their hiding places. The one who found the fewest was consoled with a red apple candy-box filled with peppermint lozenges.

A Poinsettia Birthday Party

Of late the tropical poinsettia has been very much in favor for decoration and gifts at the holiday time. In way of variety a mother issued these invitations for a little daughter's birthday that came close to Christmas. The cards bearing the message were of white ornamented with poinsettia seals, and the envelopes were closed with them:

Come to my poinsettia party, don't forget the place and day;
As my invitation's hearty, kindly do not stay away.

The table was lovely with a centrepiece of scarlet poinsettias in a round, gilded basket, glass candlesticks and scarlet candles, a white iced individual cake at each child's place, with a wee red taper resting on a poinsettia doily. Crêpe paper napkins ornamented with the same flower were used. Across one end of the dining-room a red cord was stretched, on which hung a red filled stocking for each child, fastened on with a gilded clothespin. Cherry ice was served instead of ice cream, and the bonbon box was gay with a big red poinsettia fastened to the lid. The young hostess wore red slippers and a red hair ribbon. They had great fun playing a game that went like this: The first child said, "I hung up my stocking," and the second asked, "What did you find in it?" "Nuts," was the reply. Then the second child asked the next child what she found in her stocking, and she replied, "Nuts," and added another article. Thus the game went around, with the list unchanged. If a child forgot and left out an article she dropped out and the next one continued until the stocking was well filled.

Christmas Games for Children

When the children have tired of even their new possessions and it is still too early for the sand man, try this simple amusement: Suspend a wreath of holly or greens from a doorway and provide each child with the same quantity of nuts, paper-wrapped bonbons, or favors that will stand handling, and see who can throw the most articles through the wreath into a basket placed to catch them. Give some simple reward to add zest to the play.

In the same manner the game of "toss" is conducted. Take a large napkin or piece of stout paper, place a lot of nuts or hard candies in the centre, let a child take hold of each corner, and give three vigorous tosses, singing:

Goodies, goodies, dance, my Christmas goodies.
Up they go; down they go; dance, my Christmas goodies.

Then there will be a lively scrimmage to see who can recover the most. These little devices will make a jolly ending to the happiest day in the year for the children. Put them to bed with this little song ringing in their ears:

Everywhere, everywhere, Christmas to-night!
Christmas where snow peaks stand solemn and white,
Christmas where corn-fields lie sunny and bright!
Everywhere, everywhere, Christmas to-night!

Verselet to Go With a Pair of Gloves

MERELY two gloves, yet the hands they encase
Are the hands that oft rule the world;
Hands that are dainty, tender, and kind,
The first that man's power unfurled;
Hands that are found where good deeds must be done,
Hands whose caress is divine.

May they always be strong to uphold the right
And raise mortals to holiest shrine;
Hands that in physical prowess are weak,
But in moral persuasion most strong;
Hands that will succor the needy and ill,
And sever the right from the wrong.
May those hands be ever steadfast and true
To the one they vow to love;
May they ever find warmth in a loyal heart,
As they find in this wee little glove.

Christmas-Tree Decorations

MAKE long strings of raisins, alternating with various nut meats, popcorn, and cranberries, also chains of pink and white popcorn. When it comes to dismantling the tree, these toothsome things will be eagerly devoured. Small, red apples polished to a high degree are very ornamental and always found on the trees at Christmas-time in Germany.

Baskets made from oranges, the halves lined with waxed paper and filled with bonbons, are lovely on the green tree branches. Even the children of kindergarten age may assist in dressing the glorious tree by making the dainty paper chains for festooning the branches. Their little fingers can also fashion cornucopias, of which there can never be too many.

A mother seeking novelties decorated her tree with oranges, lemons, apples, bananas, pears, etc. They were all candy boxes which the guests took home as favors when the tree was dismantled.

Novel Distribution of Gifts

An original method of distributing Christmas gifts was from an immense "horn of plenty," which was made from pasteboard and wire, covered with scarlet crêpe paper, and suspended between two large windows with scarlet ribbon. The souvenirs it contained were small articles.

One hostess at a Christmas party had her presents done up in such a fashion as to mislead as to the contents of the package, then she allowed each guest a guess as to what the parcel contained. This caused much merriment. A letter opener of silver was packed in a large wooden box and a linen doily was folded into an incredibly small space. This scheme could be carried out in an "auction party" by using grains of popcorn or cranberries for money with which to bid.

At a house party the hostess placed a large new clothes basket in the front hall. It was bountifully trimmed with ribbon and holly and was quite ornamental. It remained from early morn on Christmas eve and all packages were dropped into it. On Christmas morning the two young sons carried it into the dining-room, where, after a most delicious breakfast, with eggnogg made by the young

women in the party, the presents were distributed and opened.

At a dinner party have a small Christmas tree for a centrepiece; or the idea may be utilized at the breakfast table. Have fastened to the tree, among the ornaments, gilded walnut shells, one for each guest; inside the nut, on tightly rolled paper have instructions to be followed to find a gift. For instance: "Go upstairs and look in a work basket on the hall table." The young woman who follows these directions will find a gold thimble. The boy whose nut says: "Go up to the attic and see what you'll find," will be made happy by finding gymnasium apparatus for which he had been longing. These examples show how the idea may be worked out, and will prolong the Christmas fun.

A Star Party for Children

The invitations were red stars, the writing in white and gilt. On arriving each child was given a crown with a gilt star in front. Then there was a hunt for gilt stars scattered through the rooms and a prize of a box of candy in a star-shaped box. Next there were puzzles made by cutting large stars into bits, first pasting on thin wood, then cutting out. A quiet time was thus insured for fifteen minutes.

The dining-room was decorated with hundreds of gilt stars suspended by invisible threads of black from the ceiling and there were stars of greens around the room, with beautiful stars done in tiny electric lights over the table. Ice cream was in star-shaped moulds, and the cakes small in shape, each with a tiny lighted taper.

When all were seated the mother in a few brief words told the reason of using the star and asked the children to remember why the star shone in the East so many, many years ago.

Legend of the Christmas Stocking

An ancient legend tells us that the hanging of the Christmas stocking over the Yule log comes to us from Scandinavia. It happened in this manner: A young woman sat by the fireplace on the night before Christmas, wishing for enough fine cloth to fashion her a wedding gown. Suddenly a forest sprite appeared down the chimney. Standing on the log all ready for lighting on the morrow, he softly whispered:

Wishing, Wishing, in the Yule log's name—
Keep wishing thy stockings full.
Answer will come o'er the Yule log's flame—
Keep wishing thy stockings full.

The girl listened intently and tried to get closer to the charming sprite, who vanished at once up the chimney as silently and softly as he had come. In great excitement she hastily withdrew her stockings from both feet and fastened them to the chimney, then fled to her room, wondering whether she should find material for the wedding gown on the morrow. Sure enough, early Christmas morning when the shy maiden stole in the early dawn to the chimney she beheld her stockings filled with a silken fabric, plenty to make the bridal gown.

Now we hang only one stocking for the "wishing full." We find that this tradition makes the giving of stockings perfectly proper, just as correct as the giving of gloves or handkerchiefs. Even babies may be given lovely pairs of pink, blue and white silk ones, for they come in the very smallest sizes.

Right here I want to tell of the Christmas stocking charity as carried out by a number of people I know. Pairs of warm stockings are purchased, one of the pair to be rolled up tight and put in the toe of the outer stocking, which is filled with small gifts and toys, apples and

oranges. Then these filled stockings are sent to homes that Santa Claus might possibly overlook.

The filled stockings are all sent to one house, from which they are distributed, many people offering their automobiles for the purpose. Sometimes they go to "homes" or institutions, to be hung on the Christmas tree. The children not only have the joy of unloading the stocking, but in the end have a nice warm, whole pair to put on. These stockings need not be confined to children, for inmates of homes for old people enjoy them quite as much.

At the Sign of the Holly

A MOTHER issued these invitations last year, written on holly-decorated paper; the envelopes were tied around with silvery cord, through which a spray of holly was thrust. The seals were decorated with holly:

> At the sign of the holly, my friends, I'll await.
> I think 'twill be jolly, so don't you be late.

As each guest arrived a spray of holly and a long pin were handed out by an attendant in the dressing-room. The first thing all were ushered into a room which was called the "Christmas Garden." Here on a long table was a small artificial tree for each child and a paper-wrapped box which, when opened, was found to contain very small tree ornaments, colored papers, paste (tubes) and a pair of scissors.

Fifteen minutes was allowed in which to decorate these miniature trees. At the expiration of the time a prize was awarded for the best trimmed tree. Then all made a trip to the "postoffice," where a big, fat Santa Claus distributed Christmas postals to each one, on which instructions were given where to look for a parcel. Then such merriment! The packages had been cleverly hidden, each marked with the child's name.

The refreshment table had a tree in the center with red ribbons running to each plate where there was a gilded basket in which to take home the goodies. A white iced angel-food cake had "Merry Christmas" in red candles. The ice cream was in the shape of snowballs, on top of which a wee Santa stood.

List of Good Christmas Stories

THIS list has been carefully compiled. The books all pertain to Christmas, and are excellent, being choice examples of our very best writers. It is a fine idea to keep the spirit of the Christmastide in the books we select to give at this season:

Thackeray's "Round the Christmas Tree."
Dickens's "A Christmas Carol."
Dickens's "The Chimes."
Kate Douglas Wiggins's "The Birds' Christmas Carol."
Ruth McEnery Stuart's "Christmas at the Trimbles."
Ruth McEnery Stuart's "Apollo Belvidere."
T. B. Aldrich's "A Christmas Fantasy."
Henry Van Dyke's "The First Christmas Tree."
F. Hopkinson Smith's "Colonel Carter's Christmas."
Bret Harte's "How Santa Came to Simpson's Bar."
John Fox's "Christmas Eve on Lonesome."
Frank Stockton's "Christmas Wreck."
Lew Wallace's "Boyhood of Christ" in "Ben Hur."

Programme for a Christmas Musicale

Song—"Noel" ..... Gounod
Reading from Dickens's "Scrooge's Christmas."
Paper or talk on "Curious Christmas Customs" (in England, Germany, Sweden, etc.).
Song—"When From the East the Wise Men Came".... Bullard
Reading from "Sonny"..... Ruth McEnery Stuart
Reading from Howell's "Christmas Every Day."
"The Virgin's Lullaby"..... Dudley Buck
Reading—"George Washington Jones, a Christmas Gift That Went a-Begging"..... Ruth McEnery Stuart
Song—"Over the Hills of Bethlehem"..... Niedlinger

Christmas Sentiments

Counting the days till Christmas,
Sweet days of tender care
That loved ones may on the blessed morn,
Find longed-for treasures fair.
Thus dreaming, hoping, and waiting
That holiday draws near,
When "Peace on earth, good will to men,"
Ring out the joy bells clear.

It is a good thing to observe Christmas Day. The mere markings of times and seasons when men agree to stop work and make merry together is a wise and wholesome custom. It helps one to feel the supremacy of the common life over the individual life. It reminds a man to set his own little watch, now and then, by the great clock of humanity.—Henry van Dyke.

Cheerful looks and words are very
Sure to make Christmas merry.

It was always said of him that he knew how to keep Christmas well, if any man alive possessed the knowledge. May that be truly said of us, and of all of us. And so, as Tiny Tim observed, God bless us, every one. —Dickens.

But I am sure I have always thought of Christmas time when it has come around—apart from the veneration due to its sacred name and origin, if anything belonging to it can be apart from that—as a good time, a kind, forgiving, charitable, pleasant time.—Dickens.

Without the door let sorrow lie;
And if for cold it hap to die,
We'll bury't in a Christmas pie,
And ever more be merry.

—G. Wither.

But they didn't devote the whole evening to music. After a while they played forfeits; for it is good to be children sometimes and never better than at Christmas, when its mighty founder was a child himself.—Dickens.

I wish you health and love and mirth,
As fits the holy Christmas birth.
England was merry England, when
Old Christmas brought his sports again.
'Twas Christmas broached the mightiest ale,
'Twas Christmas told the merriest tale,
A Christmas gambol oft could cheer
The poor man's heart through half the year.
—Scott.

Come, bring with a noise,
My merry, merry boys,
The Christmas log to the firing;
Why my good dame she
Bids ye all be free
And drink to your heart's desiring.
—Robert Herrick.

Neighbors shaking hands and greeting,
No one sorrowing, no one sad,
Children, loving parents meeting,
Young and old alike are glad. —Anonymous.

Bits of Christmas Verse

Children love the holiday season, and they all love to speak pieces; so I am very glad to print these three, which are most charming and will add to the surprise of "father" if they are said on Christmas morning at the breakfast table:

I SAW THREE SHIPS

I saw three ships come sailing in,
On Christmas Day, on Christmas Day;
I saw three ships come sailing in,
On Christmas Day in the morning.

Pray, whither sailed those ships all three
On Christmas Day, on Christmas Day?
Pray, whither sailed those ships all three
On Christmas Day in the morning.

Oh, they sailed into Bethlehem
On Christmas Day, on Christmas Day;
Oh, they sailed into Bethlehem
On Christmas Day in the morning.

And all the bells on earth shall ring
On Christmas Day, on Christmas Day;
And all the bells on earth shall ring
On Christmas Day in the morning.

And all the angels in heaven shall sing
On Christmas Day, on Christmas Day;
And all the angels in heaven shall sing
On Christmas Day in the morning.

And all the souls on earth shall sing
On Christmas Day, on Christmas Day;
And all the souls on earth shall sing
On Christmas Day in the morning.

—Old Carol.

CHRISTMAS SONG

Why do the bells for Christmas ring?
Why do little children sing?

Once a lovely shining star,
Seen by shepherds from afar,
Gently moved until its light
Made a manger-cradle bright.

There a darling baby lay
Pillowed soft upon the hay.
And His mother sang and smiled,
"This is Christ, the Holy Child."

So the bells for Christmas ring.
So the little children sing.

—Lydia Avery Coonley Ward.

CRADLE HYMN

Away in a manger, no crib for a bed,
The little Lord Jesus laid down His sweet little head.
The stars in the bright sky looked down where He lay—
The little Lord Jesus asleep on the hay.

The cattle are lowing, the Baby awakes,
But little Lord Jesus, no crying He makes.
I love Thee, Lord Jesus! look down from the sky,
And stay by my cradle till morning is nigh.
—Martin Luther.

December Prophecies

If born in this snowy month, you should wear a turquoise and memorize this verselet:

If cold December gave you birth,
The month of snow and ice and mirth,
Place on your hand a turquoise blue,
Success will bless whate'er you do.

Holly belongs to December and means domestic happiness and foresight. Those contemplating matrimony will be glad to know this couplet:

Married in days of December's cheer,
Love's star burns brighter from year to year.

Here is weather prediction for the month and one concerning Christmas that will interest us:

A snow year, a rich year.

If Christmas Day on Monday be,
A great winter that year you will see,
And full of winds both loud and shrill.

If that Christmas Day fall
Upon Friday, know all
That winter season shall be easy,
Save great winds aloft shall fly;
The summer also shall be dry,
What child that day is born,
Great and rich shall be of corn.

A Snowball Party

A lovely party given for children was carried out thus: There was a tree covered with white decorations and loads of snowballs. These balls were filled with bonbons.

One at a time, each child was allowed to take a pair of scissors and clip a snowball from the tree. The dining-room table was a dream. It was round, with a pyramid of balls in the centre; they were oranges covered with cotton and sprinkled with diamond dust. This rested on a mat of holly and mistletoe. Over the table there was a canopy of greens hung with glass icicles. The greens were flecked with cotton and coarse salt, which sparkled beautifully.

There were four tall, white candles with snowball shades. Around the base of each were mounds of holly. The snowball idea appeared in the ice cream and in the cakes and candies, which were home-made. At the finish each child was given one of the snowball oranges to take home.

On Whittier's Birthday

THE seventeenth is the birthday of the beloved Quaker poet Whittier, so quotations from his writings would be in order.

In fact, an evening's entertainment could be planned with a short account of the preacher-poet's life, and the reading of selections from his works. The ladies might dress in quaint Quaker costumes of gray, with kerchiefs and caps. All the guests might be expected to use "thee" and "thou." Observe the greatest simplicity in serving refreshments. A real New England menu would be appropriate, individual pots of baked beans, brown bread, doughnuts, coffee and cider, with nuts and apples.

For amusement use this contest; all the answers are names of poems:

1. Guess the name of the poem shut in by the storm. Snow bound.
2. The poem where volumes abound. The Library.
3. The poem devoid both of shoes and stockings. The Barefoot Boy.

4. The poem that flows from the ground. The Fountain.
5. The poem whose mother in Salem was hanged. The Witch's Daughter.
6. The poem of sunshine and rain. April.
7. The poem which gathered the hay in the field. Maud Muller.
8. The poem that's hard to explain. A Mystery.
9. The poem which shared in the games of my youth. My Playmate.
10. The poem when lessons were learned. In School Days.
11. The poem which guarded the flag from disgrace. Barbara Frietchie.
12. The poem in fireplace burned. Burning Driftwood.

CHAPTER XIII.—PARTY PASTIMES FOR ALL OCCASIONS

A Unique Lemon Party

SOUNDS refreshing, doesn't it? The invitations were cut out of slightly rough yellow stiff paper, tied with a little bow of lemon-colored satin ribbon. When all the guests arrived they went onto the porch and were given lemon-shaped cards through the top of which there hung a spray of fragrant lemon verbena. On the table there was a pile of lemons; each guest drew one, cut it open with a silver fruit-knife and counted the seeds, writing down the number on her lemon card, also writing her name. The lemons were then taken to the pantry and soon reappeared in the shape of lemonade. The seeds were collected and placed in a glass fruit jar, where every one could see them, and guesses were taken as to the total number, the number guessed being also recorded on the card. Then refreshments were served, consisting of lemon aspic salad, sardine sandwiches, lemon sherbet and cakes iced with lemon frosting. Candy boxes in shape of lemons were passed for favors, each one containing perfect little lemon quarters in the shape of candy. A prize for the nearest guess on the lemon seeds was awarded. It was a straw garden hat trimmed with lemon-colored tarlatan and a bunch of artificial lemons. The consolation prize was a half-dozen lemons and a china lemon-squeezer.

Old Time Charades

THE very newest fads, so-called, are but revivals from olden days. Among the amusements popular right now

are charades, which are enjoyed by both old and young. I found this dinner menu in charade form which appears most interesting; if not needed now, put it away until Thanksgiving or Christmas to use after dinner:

Soup: Tomato (Tow-ma-tow).
Meat: (Tur Key).
Giblet gravy: (Jib-let Gray V).
Vegetables: Potato (Pot-eight-O).
Cauliflower: (Call-I-Flower).
Jelly: Currant (Cur-rant).
Dessert: Plum Pudding (Plumb).
Beverage: Coffee (Cough-fee).

Merely the syllables may be acted, or the entire word may make one scene; this to be decided upon by the leader.

For Boy's Twenty-First Birthday

A FOND mother devised and carried out this clever stag party in honor of her only son's coming of age:

The favors were toy watches, and little canes had the place cards tied to the handles. Red carnations, the favorite flower of nearly every man, were used in the centre of the table, and one was laid at each plate. The candles were red and had very simple shades.

This very plain menu was served, but each dish was a special favorite of this mother's lad: Vegetable soup, bread sticks, beefsteak with mushrooms, baked potatoes on the half shell—which means scooping out the potatoes after cutting in halves, mixing with cream, butter, and sometimes the yolk of an egg, replacing and browning in the oven—spaghetti, and tomatoes. No salad, but for dessert there were individual apple pies, *à la mode*—which is a big spoonful of ice cream on top—olives, nuts, cheese, and coffee. There were cigars, ginger ale, and a big bowl filled with all kinds of fruit. A birthday cake

with twenty-one red candles was brought in after the dessert and served with the coffee.

Souvenir Postcard Luncheon

A GIRL of sixteen planned and carried out this affair, which was really delightful. The scheme is adaptable to church societies and club functions. In the invitations, which were issued on postals, the guests were requested to bring six of their most interesting cards and be prepared to tell about them.

The table centrepiece was a ball of ferns, in which were stuck wee silk flags of all nations. Each girl was given a foreign postcard and told to pick out the flag of the country from which it came and take her place nearest to that flag. The girl who had a card from Berlin took the German colors from the ball, etc.

Bonbon or nut-holders were made by pasting paper cups on the corners of postcards; the guest's name was also written across the card. The ice cream was white with a stamp on one corner; the guest's initials being done with small candies.

Afterwards postal card stories were told and the fine collection of the hostess was thoroughly enjoyed.

An Indian Party

ON cards cut to represent Indian arrows the invitations were written and attached to little willow branches by a thong of buckskin. Below the day, date, and hour this couplet from "Hiawatha" was written:

> She has sent through all the village
> Messengers with wands of willow,
> As a sign of invitation,
> As a token of the feasting.

The porch and lawn were arranged as "Indiany" as possible with blankets, rugs, baskets, stacks of corn and pottery collected on a western trip.

Cards were played for an hour. The score was kept on bands of gray satin ribbon tied around the heads of guests, feathers being stuck in for each game won. These quills were chicken feathers dyed vivid colors.

After the cards there was a stringing contest with coarse needles and wooden kindergarten beads.

To choose partners for refreshments there were bows of various sizes, to which bits of cords were fastened, there being a cord just to fit each bow.

For a party at which men are to be included this quotation from "Hiawatha" might be written on the cards to which the bows are attached:

> As unto the bow the cord is,
> So unto the man is woman;
> Though she bends him, she obeys him,
> Though she draws him, yet she follows:
> Useless each without the other.

Supper was served on the lawn, the guests following a "blazed trail" to a fire built of branches over which a black kettle swung. The hostess ladled out delicious soup into stunning yellow earthenware bowls, which were given as souvenirs. Other good things were brought by servants from the house, and then all sat around the campfire and told stories.

A Character Party

A HOSTESS noted for her originality issued invitations for a "character party." The guests were limited to twenty-four, and each was requested to wear some article indicative of a country or city, or to come costumed to represent some characteristic of town or country.

For instance, the hostess represented "Columbia," and wore a skirt of white, a bodice of blue with a scarlet girdle, a tiara of gilt stars on a filet of blue, with a tiny silk flag on the side. Her husband's costume was typi-

cal of "Uncle Sam," so familiar that it needs no description. A lady of Cuba went as a Spanish girl in lace mantilla, high comb and red roses.

One man created a sensation arrayed in a bright red sweater and feather dusters fastened in every place they would hold on. He expected to be recognized as an aborigine "from most any old place." A man from Boston wore one blue stocking, carried a huge volume and wore spectacles. The "lady from Philadelphia" wore her "family tree" in her hair, while a maiden in a faultless up-to-date ball gown was recognized as "Paris." One woman created much merriment by wearing her husband's shoes. Every one said at once "Chicago."

Programmes were passed on which the guests wrote who was who. A correct list of the characters was read and a grand march followed. International colors were used in the decorations.

Giving a Stork Party

From patent food and other pictorial advertisements cut as many storks as there will be guests. From other ads. cut pretty baby figures or heads. Begin the invitation as follows: "You are cordially invited to a stork party," but instead of the word "stork" paste on the picture of one. Finish with the name of the one to be honored, the place and date, and add one of the little baby heads to the page in the lower left-hand corner.

Have in the centre of the room a large stork, or a stuffed crane will answer. Usually high schools or some public collections have one of these birds which they will loan for the occasion. Suspend a basket from the bill filled with gifts or with a doll baby. He may also have a pretty basket fastened to his wings for small gifts. Serve light refreshments. A chilled malted milk flavored with chocolate is delicious, with fancy crackers.

Looking Backwards

THIS is in reality an old-time party. To add to the interest, the guests may be asked to come in colonial costumes. Little booklets, the title being "Booke of Ye Good Old Times," to be handed each guest. The inner pages having these significant titles:

I. Winding Bee.
II. Spelling Match.
III. Quilting Bee.
IV. Apple-paring Bee.
V. Singing Bee.

The books are to be filled as for a dance programme, so there will be partners for each contest. For the "Winding Bee," the girls to hold skeins of zephyr for the boys to wind into balls. The one making the best ball in shortest time to have a prize. All know how to conduct a spelling match. For the "Quilting Bee" have a real frame with cheese-cloth comforter in, the boys being obliged to "tie" once across, with no help from the girls. Of course, they must be shown how, but not really helped. For the apple paring, the one making the longest peeling to have a reward. The singing school is to be conducted by a leader dressed in old-fashioned clothes. The possibilities of such an affair are great, for every one has a chance to take part; this fact alone promises success.

Paper Costume Party

A GIRL noted for her clever parties issued this invitation:

A Paper Gown,
Red, white, or blue,
Or any shade
Preferred by you,
We ask you to wear
Next Thursday night,

And be present to witness
A pretty sight.
Judges will reign in majesty
And award the prizes
Of which there are three.
First, beauty we seek,
Originality, too,
Or, if the most comical,
We'll give to you
A dainty little gift
That you'd love to win—
Now please don't be late
For at eight we begin.
So wear your paper gown
And bring a heart full of cheer,
And I'm certain this party
Will be remembered all the year.

Crêpe papers are so beautiful that the judges had a difficult time rendering their decisions. Tarlatan may be used as a foundation for the dresses.

One especially amusing costume was made from Fels-Naptha soap wrappers; the girl called herself "Aunty Drudge." "Aunt Jemima's Pancake Flour" was also represented, and one girl made a decided hit as the "Local News," her costume being entirely of newspapers.

Novel Potato Party

The hostess passed to each lady a well-washed potato of rather long slender shape. Then each one was given four small wire hairpins, four small black tacks, two fancy paper napkins with gayly colored borders, and a supply of pins. There were scissors and tubes of library paste.

The order was to construct a doll. With prizes to be awarded for the best and poorest specimens the ladies worked with amazing zeal. This going back to childhood days was thoroughly enjoyed, and while none had manufactured potato dolls before, nearly everyone confessed to the clothespin variety, and it was surprising

the array of attractive little figures that emerged from the hands of these erstwhile creative artists.

The hairpins were used for arms and legs, the tacks made eyes, nose and mouth, and it was astonishing the variety of facial expressions achieved. All sorts of garments were made from the napkins, which were pinned and pasted into shape. There were babies, children, Japs in kimonos, sunbonnet toddlers, ladies of high and low degree, all acknowledging a common potato for their origin.

The prizes were in keeping with the novelty of the pastime. The first one was a large sweet-potato pie piled high with fluffy meringue; the consolation offering was several quarts of new potatoes in a most charming green basket.

Bohemian Party

A JOLLY crowd of about a dozen young people formed themselves into a "Bohemian" club with the end and aim of each hostess to have her party just as different as possible from what the last one had. An indoor moonlight picnic was a great success. I am glad to give details, as far as I have them, which any one will be able to enlarge upon.

The lights were all veiled with very pale blue and green under white, which gave a very good moonlight effect. Quantities of foliage plants were used throughout the rooms; the variegated leaves were exquisite under the lights. Of course, the guests all wore summer picnic costumes. A fish pond was arranged in one corner and the centre of the large living-room had a merry-go-round, the chairs being placed in a circle, and a graphophone played lively tunes. At nine the dining-room doors were opened, revealing a tablecloth spread on the floor with a cushion for each one to sit on; there

was a pretty basket for each couple containing two kinds of sandwiches, olives, individual baked beans and salad was passed. Paper plates and napkins were used, coffee passed on trays, with cake and molasses bonbons. There were snapping crackers with grotesques for each. During the spread, the guests had to tell their most vivid recollections of a picnic, and many were the funny tales related. By ten thirty the supper was over and the floor cleared for an informal little dance. This club has had straw rides, boating parties, a circus, an old-fashioned candy pull, chafing dish parties, and a supper which the men prepared and served.

A Bon Voyage Party

For sending the invitations make little steamer rugs from felt or plaid flannel, cutting the pieces about 3 by 12 inches. Fringe the two long ends with a pair of sharp scissors, place the note of invitation inside and roll up with straps cut from an old pair of kid gloves. Attach a card bearing the guest's name and address, with "Please unpack and answer at once." Nothing is more appropriate for a centrepiece than a toy steamship or one made of flowers. Ship funnels made of cardboard are good at the four corners of the table filled with blooming "smoke" tree. The name of the ship should be on it and the proper lines on the funnel. These, with ropes twisted about the ship caught at intervals with gilded anchors and "compass" place cards will complete a very attractive table. The gifts may be presented in a travelling bag brought in by a small boy dressed as a porter with the name of the steamship company on his cap. The shops are filled with articles suitable for the traveller by land or sea; and it is quite the custom to honor a departing friend with a farewell party.

A Hobby Luncheon

A COLLEGE girl described this affair to me, and I saw its possibilities even for those not in the heyday of youth, for who of us hasn't some hobby to ride, either fast or slow, and in some instances "it" rides us.

The guests were eight girls, all students at the same university, and all acquainted with each other's whims and fancies. The centrepiece was a small hobbyhorse ridden by a dolly dressed in cap and gown. At each place were small hobbyhorses with the name cards attached by ribbons in the class colors.

No names were written, but all found their places by the clever drawing in pen and ink on the cards. For instance, the girl with musical ambitions found herself "ten years hence with a hand organ and a monkey grinding out 'Home, Sweet Home.'" The stout girl (she called herself plump) was represented rolling down hill with the words, "I have lost one-eighth of a pound." The maiden who was to be a teacher (in her own mind) was depicted as a fashionable society woman playing bridge, and the golf girl found herself with Cupid peering out of her bag and the words, "A clever stroke" underneath.

When all were seated the hostess asked each to explain why her hobby was commendable, and she told them to look under their place plates, and there they found quaintly worded invitations asking them to meet her ten years from date and see how the hobbyhorses had been ridden. If impossible to be present letters were to be sent to be read aloud.

A Luncheon for Nurses

A DAUGHTER of a prominent family in her home town, tired of the pomps and vanities of this wicked world, determined to take a course in nursing. Much to the

surprise of herself, friends, and family, she continued to the end and graduated with honor. This surprise luncheon was arranged by an elder sister. The table was covered with blue chambray, exactly like the hospital uniform, the centrepiece and plate doilies were of white linen, each having a red cross embroidered in the corner; the opposite corner had the guest's monogram. The centrepiece was a tall glass used for measuring in the diet kitchen and laboratories and was filled with marguerites. The candles were white, in glass holders, with red cross decorations on the shades. Tiny white mortars held olives and nuts, and water was poured from large medicine bottles. Wee bonbons in shape of pellets were in pill boxes labeled with directions for taking. These were very funny and the girls, all in uniforms, caps, and aprons, entered heartily into the fun. On regular hospital report sheets each nurse found her name with laughable remarks as to her condition; a small skeleton (found) at the favorite counter, stood on top, supposed to be the ghost of a "first case" come back to haunt its stern persecutor. A delicious menu was served with all the accessories that money, thought, and love could produce. Needless to say, the memory of this happy day will while away many a trying hour in the days to come, when these splendid girls are on real duty with their first cases long in the past.

Amusing Pastime

At an evening party where the guests were not well acquainted, the hostess did not have any especial feature, so she passed to each guest a card bearing one of these various verselets, being careful to give each card to one she knew could do the stunt well. The first guest had this on hers:

Though riddles do our minds distress,
We'd like two good ones now to guess.

And there were two good conundrums immediately forthcoming.

Each guest read her card aloud before complying with its request. The following are good suggestions:

We'd like to hear you tell to-day
Some funny things that children say.

Describe some woman in the town,
Her nose and hair, her dress and gown;
But do not give us her address,
Nor tell her name, and we will guess.

We'd like a story full of fun;
You're gifted, Lyman, tell us one.

Misery likes company, they say;
We'd like to hear you tell to-day
(Don't hesitate, but now begin)
Of the worst scrape you e'er were in.

Your talent gives us much delight;
We wish that you would please recite.

Your part in this programme to help us along
Will give us much pleasure; please sing us a song.

If music hath charms, we wish that to-day
You'd prove it, and something quite charming would play.

Tell some joke on yourself, your wife, or your friend,
But we hope that you'll have it pleasantly end.

Describe some trip you've taken far,
To Mexico, Europe, or Zanzibar.

Give a tale of old time when settlers were few,
Of what they had then and what they did do.

Describe some famous picture,
  Whether dark or fair.
Please tell us all about it,
  And the artist rare.

Without a bit of gossip sweet,
This programme would not be complete.
Be sure that while the seasons roll,
This crowd will never tell a soul.

A Stork Party

THIS charming luncheon was not embarrassing to the guest of honor and was altogether a unique affair. The place cards were sealed envelopes, bearing the guests' names. The hostess asked them not to open them until the dessert course, then to begin at her left, each one to read the verse her envelope contained; the last to read was the lady on the right of the hostess and her verse told the story.

This is the poem complete. It is called "The Song of the Red-Legged Stork," by Pauline C. Bowie. If a luncheon is not given, the story may be read, and the guests asked to determine whom the stork has honored, or the hostess may say: "Mr. So-and-So is the fortunate one."

Over the mists of the darkening wold,
Where the skies are pale and the winds blow cold,
Down where the gates of life, unfurled,
Let the souls pass through the throbbing world,
Flew the red-legged stork,
And he flew and flew
For ten score days and seventy more,
Till he reached the house of the open door,
Where the angel of gifts stood waiting near,
With dimples and smiles and a glittering tear.

Over white wastes of gleaming snow,
Over fair meadows where buttercups grow,
And fields where the red poppies sleepily nod
To the songs of the robins, sung to God,
Flew the red-legged stork,
And he sang as he flew:
"Winds do not hinder me—Time is fleet;
Sun, do not burn me; withhold your heat;
I carry a link love's chain to complete,
And my burden is precious—a baby sweet.

"Frost, do not blight me in my flight;
Rain, do not spoil my feathers white;
For the way is long and Time is fleet,
And my burden is precious—a baby sweet."

Down under arches of shimmering blue,
Where the south wind lives and the sun sifts thro'—
Over still places, where moonbeams sleep,
And the stars climb over the cloud-stair steep,
Flew the red-legged stork,
And he sang as he flew:
"Blue of the heavens, color her eyes;
Kiss her soft feet, ye rose-flushed skies;
I carry God's message, men's love to meet,
And my burden is precious—a baby sweet."

A Bottle Party

"Bring a bottle (empty), any size and shape, and come to my house Tuesday night." So said Polly's characteristic little note. Polly was always startling, always original; so, armed with our bottles, we presented ourselves at the time appointed. It was really very droll when the bottles all, great and small, were lined up on the table. Upon another table there were odds and ends of laces, ribbons, crêpe papers, corks, cotton batting, watercolor paints, needles, thread, and library paste, with numerous scissors arranged in piles.

Then Polly explained that a bottle was to be transformed into a doll in a half-hour's time. Judges were appointed to criticise the finished creations and award the prizes. This stunt accomplished, we were led into a room, each one blindfolded in turn and handed a bottle containing one flower, which was to be guessed by its odor. There was an aster, a sunflower, heliotrope, mignonette, rose, lemon, verbena, clematis, violet, etc. The flowers were all put in one bouquet as a prize for the one who guessed the most. Delicious cakes and ginger ale, as being "out of a bottle," were served about half

after nine. At eleven o'clock tiny sandwiches, demi-tasses of coffee, olives, and salted nuts were passed. The favors were small bottles of perfumery.

An Afternoon in Spain

A CLUB of young ladies who had been studying Spain and Portugal gave a very pretty closing day. They decorated the large living-room with red and yellow, using quantities of red and yellow tulips for their flowers. They bought a number of the Perry pictures illustrating paintings of Murillo and Velasquez, pinning them around the room. A large picture of King Alphonso was draped with the Spanish flag. *Chili-con-carne* was served by maids in Spanish costumes, consisting of short black skirts, red, white, or yellow waists, low shoes, stockings of black, red, or yellow, short black shawl, black lace mantillas, and plenty of bead necklaces. Spanish songs were sung and the national anthems of both countries, also some Spanish dances given by several young girls who had been taught the steps by a teacher of fancy dancing. Coffee, salted Valencia almonds, and peanuts were passed with Chili sandwiches.

A Gridiron Party

IN return for a chafing dish party a half dozen young fellows sent out invitations for a Gridiron party at the home of a chap who was lucky enough to have a mother to prepare for him and then slip behind the scenes. Each girl was given an apron, and each man a white cap and an apron.

The men grilled the lamb chops and the girls prepared the peas and made potatoes *au gratin,* and coffee. They had cheese, crackers and fruit for dessert, and it was a jolly little spread just at seven o'clock on a Saturday night.

A Detestation Party

THE hostess said in her message, which was given over the telephone: "Please come, wearing an article which will express your greatest dislike." As men were included in the invitations we were prepared for something very unusual and were not disappointed. There were twenty guests and here are a few examples of what happened: A sedate matron came completely covered with realistic little wiggly snakes, most of them purchased at a Japanese store; others were of the vivid green variety so much in favor for St. Patrick's day; a beau of the town appeared with his head adorned with a curious collection of false hair, braids, puffs, rats, varying from golden to jet black, which plainly showed his dislike for false hair. A young girl wore a necklace made from tiny imitation but realistic cigars, with cigars of larger size in her hair; a young matron had a number of toy and candy mice adorning her white frock; one girl wore an enormous quantity of paste jewelry, strings of beads, etc., and another had her dress ornamented with advertisements of whisky and champagne. It was really a very clever affair and created much merriment.

A Novel Paper Party

THIS party had an unusual degree of novelty, and the guests had a royally good time. First on the programme was a paper race conducted as follows: Have as many ten-yard strips of paper (such as come around bolts of ribbon) as there are guests, also several pairs of blunt scissors. Choose three or four as jockeys, placing paper jockey caps on their heads. To each of the others give twenty paper gun-wads.

Line up the jockeys with a number pinned on the sleeve of each. The others begin to bet on them with their gun-wad money. Stretch the rolls of paper ribbon across

the room, each one held at the opposite end by a person selected from the guests. The jockeys have their end and a pair of scissors, and at the word "Go" they start to cut the ribbon straight down the middle, going as fast as possible. If they run off they are disqualified and have to drop out. The one who reaches the other side with both bits of ribbon intact is the winner. This act may be repeated until all have tried or as long as the hostess deems best. First, second and third prizes may be awarded, and bets are to be settled at the end of every race.

Next, the hostess presented each guest with a clothespin and a roll of colored tissue paper, some twine, pins, needle, and coarse thread, and said: "See who can make the best doll in fifteen minutes." The results were laughable and very creditable in some instances. All the decorations throughout the house were of paper, and paper napkins and dishes were used when refreshments were served. Paper chains could be made for another contest, also a prize for the best articles cut from paper, like the hand-in-hand dolls we used to make in our childhood days. Caps are quickly made of paper and also very good-looking hats.

A Novelty Luncheon

Six matrons who meet monthly for luncheon had a surprise at a recent gathering. The hostess said: "Let's go back to our childhood days and play 'magic music.'" To the tones of the piano, now loud, now soft, each one found and opened her parcel, which contained two colored bandanna handkerchiefs, with several yards of ribbon. The hostess then passed her work basket, with thread, needles, thimbles, and scissors, and told her guests to fashion for themselves caps and aprons. After they were finished, which was in a short time, the hostess

informed them that her maid had given them notice and departed that morning, so they were all to help in cooking and serving the repast.

This added to the merriment, and nearly everything was cooked on the table. They had creamed oysters in the chafing dish, the toast was made on an electric toaster, the coffee bubbled in a percolater, hot rolls were brought in from a near by store, potatoes were quickly French fried by the hostess, who brought them in and kept them piping hot on one corner of the toaster; pineapple salad was on the side table, and the gelatin dessert already in tall glasses on a tray in the refrigerator.

It was a great success, and the little hostess proved that sometimes disasters may be made into good times. With the many contrivances for lightening labor, Bridget's sudden giving notice is not so much to be dreaded.

A New Word-Making Game

A HOSTESS entertaining in honor of a visiting guest passed cards bearing the last name of her friend. The company was told to make as many words from the letters composing the name as they could in twenty minutes. A prize was awarded for the longest and shortest lists. This proved a very pleasant introduction and served as an ice-breaker, as the people were almost all entire strangers. This scheme is a good one for church socials, which are apt to be stiff if not conducted along the same lines as a private party.

A Backward Party

A "BACKWARD" party will give an evening of rare fun, but ask only about twenty thoroughly congenial people. In the invitations state that masks of the plainest possible description should be worn over the face, just to allow seeing and breathing, and a very much

made-up face be put on the back of the head. The clothes are to be put on so as to make the back in front, etc.

The invitation must be written on the back page of note paper and finished on the first page. When the guests arrive they will be greeted by a large placard requesting them to go to the back door. They will go up the back stairs and be received by the hostess in the kitchen. The girls will wear their dress-skirts wrong side out and the men their coats in the same ludicrous fashion. Ladies will ask the men to supper and to dance. The menu will begin with the dessert and end with soup, thus the whole affair will be as backward as it is possible to make it, and each guest is to be requested to "look backward" and relate some interesting reminiscence. The house should be lighted with lamps and candles.

A Coiffure Party

This is just the funniest kind of a party. Ask the guests to come in regular conventional evening attire with the exception of their heads; both men and women must change the style of hair dressing. Either a picturesque or grotesque mode may be chosen. For instance, imagine a man in perfectly correct evening dress with his head representing an Indian chief in full war bonnet; or a matron well settled, as my colored maid describes a quite elderly person, with her hair in braids down her back. A most complete transformation takes place in the maid of pompadour fame when she appears with her hair parted and plastered down as slick as a newly peeled onion. Choose partners for refreshments by pairing off the very tallest men with the shortest girls; have a man with ruler, pencil and paper to take the measurements. Award prize for the most changed person after having the company parade in a grand march be-

fore the committee who are asked to judge. Just try this scheme the next time some one asks you what to do to have some fun.

An Evening in Holland

The invitations said, "The Travel club will be pleased to have you spend an evening in Holland, at the residence of Mrs. Brown, January twelfth, at eight o'clock."

The house was transformed completely with the flag of Holland—red, white, and blue—at all doors and windows; then there were pictures of Queen Wilhelmina and reproductions of famous Dutch artists, such as Rembrandt, Potter, Hals, and others. There were storks and windmills on the dining-table, with a pair of wee wooden shoes at each place. Lacking real tulips and hyacinths, there were artificial ones, and members had sent any bits of delft they possessed or could borrow, as well as many post cards from Holland, which were all displayed upon a table.

There were twelve members in this club, and they were asked to come in costume, which I describe rather minutely.

The men wore dark jackets over bright vests, knee pants, low heavy shoes, with blue woollen stockings, broad soft hats, with rather pointed crowns. The Dutch fisherboy wore wooden shoes, very full trousers, coarse knitted stockings, a striped waist or blouse, red tie, and a visor cap.

The girls wore full skirts of blue flannel, short-sleeved waists, laced over a white shirt with short, full sleeves. A large white or colored kerchief was crossed over the breast and fastened at the waist. Fancy or white aprons, red stocks, wooden shoes completed a costume. The hair was parted and braided with a cap of white muslin or gay silk worn on the head. There are more elaborate headpieces of brass, with lace caps. The

Dutch women are also very fond of wearing coral beads.

The fact that Holland leads the world in making cheese furnished the subject for a very interesting paper. The hostess served potato salad, piping hot sausage grilled in the chafing dish, Dutch herring made into appetizing sandwiches, pickles, and cheese, and offered a choice of coffee, cocoa, or beer, with pretzels.

A Novel Good Luck Party

To a departing guest this charming party was given by two of her girl friends. It certainly was an original and delightful affair. Everywhere good luck emblems prevailed and were quite unusual, as there were large gilded horseshoes over the doors, also gilded wishbones, and hidden in nooks and corners throughout the rooms were lots of new, bright pennies. A little silk bag was given each guest, and the hunt for lucky cents began. A very dainty wishbone scarf pin was awarded the lucky finder of the most.

For refreshments partners were found in this way. There were gilded horseshoes made of cardboard, then cut in two in various ways, so that when put together a perfect shoe was formed, the pieces had to fit exactly. This made a jolly time. The table centrepiece was a huge gold horseshoe encircling the candelabra, which had white candles and white shades upon which horseshoes and four-leaf clovers were the decoration. Ice cream was frozen in horseshoe moulds, and the cakes were iced with a gilt wishbone on the top.

An Old-Fashioned Party

"That Reminds Me" on an invitation added a spice of novelty to the afternoon. Each guest told a story reminiscent or otherwise, and as they were all old friends a most delightful time was enjoyed. This is a capital

idea for a grandmothers' party. Use all the old-fashioned things obtainable, have a nosegay of pansies (for thoughts) at each place and serve this deliciously old-fashioned supper.

Cold ham and chicken, creamed potatoes, tiny baking-powder biscuit, tomato pickles, brandied peaches, baked cup custard, rolled jelly cake, tea with cream and sugar. Have an old-fashioned bouquet of garden flowers, butter plates, a castor in centre of the table, and pour the tea at the table.

Pass buttermilk in the afternoon, icy cold, in thin tumblers or—better still—goblets.

An Experience Party

The invitations for this novel affair were given over the telephone—without which how did we ever live, move and have our being? The hostess asked each of her twelve guests to come prepared to tell in five minutes some incident of their summer. Most of them had been on various vacation trips. In this way an hour's entertainment was delightfully furnished. Then there was a reading that lasted twenty minutes given by a friend who was good enough to share some of her unpublished stories. The place cards laid on the tables spread on the porch were all foreign scenes collected by the hostess. Delicious sandwich rolls were served, iced coffee, olives, salted nuts, and bonbons.

Menu from the Bible

Each article on the bill of fare may be accompanied by a quotation, if it is desired to add a bit of novelty to a church supper, or it would be an enjoyable pastime for Sunday afternoon to look up the references:

PREPARING FOR THE TABLE

And upon the table of shewbread they shall spread a cloth of blue, and put thereon the dishes and the spoons, and the bowls and covers to cover withal; and the continual bread shall be thereon.—Numbers iv, 7.

Eat it with the bread that is in the basket.—Leviticus viii, 31.

And salt without prescribing how much.—Ezra vii, 22.

And a little oil in a cruse.—I. Kings, xvii, 12.

The bright shining of a candle doth give thee light.—Luke xi, 36.

Tell them which are bidden, Behold, I have prepared my dinner, and all things are ready.—Matthew xxii, 4.

Let us eat and be merry.—Luke xv, 23.

A feast is made for laughter, and wine maketh merry.—Ecclesiastes x, 19.

Ye hear the sound of the cornet, flute, harp, sackbut, psaltery, dulcimer, and all kinds of music.—Daniel iii, 5.

Give us this day our daily bread.—Matthew vi, 11.

Two hundred loaves of bread.—II. Samuel xvi, 1.

SOUP

Pour out the broth.—Judges vi, 20.

Feed me, I pray thee, with that same red pottage.—Genesis xxv, 30.

Eat this roll.—Ezekiel iii, 1.

Drink no longer water, but use a little wine for thy stomach's sake.—I. Timothy v, 23.

FISH

We remember the fish which we did eat.—Numbers xi, 5.

And they gave him a piece of a broiled fish.—Luke xxiv, 42.

Bring of the fish which ye have now caught.—John xxi, 10.

Eat thy bread with joy.—Ecclesiastes ix, 7.

Every man at the beginning doth set forth good wine.—John ii, 10.

ENTREMETS

Olives.—Micah vi, 15.

And the hare.—Leviticus xi, 6.

Chickens.—Matthew xxiii, 37.

Harts . . . and fatted fowl.—I. Kings iv, 23.

Give me, I pray thee, a little water to drink, for I am thirsty. —Judges iv, 19.

There is a cup, and the wine is red.—Psalm LXXV, 8.

ROASTS

As of the roebuck, and as of the hart.—Deuteronomy xii, 15.
A lamb.—Leviticus v, 7.
All clean fowls you may eat.—Deuteronomy xiv, 20.

VEGETABLES

Take thou also unto thee wheat, and barley, and beans, and lentils, and millet.—Ezekiel iv. 9.
We remember . . . the cucumbers, . . . and the leeks, and the onions, and the garlic.—Numbers xi, 5.
After that the full corn in the ear.—Mark iv, 28.
The manna was as coriander seed.—Numbers xi, 7.

GAME

And he brought quails.—Psalm CV, 40.
Two young pigeons.—Leviticus v, 7.
The partridge.—Jeremiah xvii, 11.
There is a crying for wine.—Isaiah xxiv, 11.

DESSERT

Carry these ten cheeses unto the captain.—I. Samuel xvii, 18.
Behold, a basket of summer fruit.—Amos viii, 1.
One cluster of grapes, and they brought of the pomegranates, and of the figs.—Numbers xiii, 23.
One basket had very good figs.—Jeremiah xxiv, 2.
Thou mayest eat grapes thy fill at thine own pleasure.—Deuteronomy xxiii, 24.
We remember . . . the melons.—Numbers xi, 5.
They brought . . . bunches of raisins, and wine.—I. Chronicles xii, 40.
And they gave them drink in vessels of gold, . . . and royal wine in abundance.—Esther i, 7.
Drink thy wine with a merry heart.—Ecclesiastes ix, 7.

A Farewell Party

A YOUNG woman who is going to Europe for an extended trip was the guest of honor at this really unique party. It was a luncheon, and the centrepiece was a toy dray piled high with miniature trunks (purchased in the toy department), and the place cards were suitcases, with the guest's name written on real labels and pasted on the side. A silver travelling cup in a russet leather case was at the traveller's place.

After the luncheon had been served the maid brought in a pile of steamer letters, one from each guest present, to be read *en voyage*. After the dessert was on the table, a telegram from each one present was delivered which were opened and read.

Before leaving the table the little dray which had horses attached was helped around the board and unloaded, the trunks were filled with mints, and the suitcases with salted nuts. The dray was borrowed from a small boy's nursery for the occasion.

After going into the drawing-room the hostess passed envelopes, each one containing a souvenir postal card, cut into odd bits puzzle-fashion. To the guest who succeeded in putting the pieces together a prize was awarded of a fine foreign postal plainly mounted.

A Farewell Gift

A YOUNG woman who was going to Europe was the recipient of many parting gifts. This one she describes as affording her much amusement. The friend who sent it was fond of a joke and given to putting her thoughts in rhyme, as is shown below. The package was neatly wrapped, and on opening revealed a yard of inch-wide red ribbon to which were attached five daintily wrapped tissue paper packages; all seemed to be exactly the same size. The outside bore the date they were to be opened. This is what they contained and the jingle with them:

A handkerchief to wave adieu,
A lemon for use when you're feeling blue,
A paper of pins to keep you tight,
Some soda mints to hope you'll write.

Fun in Acting Proverbs

A COTERIE of young men and women found much amusement in acting proverbs. It was entirely im-

promptu and each one acted out in pantomime any proverb that happened to come into his mind, the rest of the company being the admiring audience while he or she performed. Sometimes two or more were required to act the parts.

At the end of the evening the hostess gave the person who had acted the most a little prize.

Here are a few of the proverbs acted:

"There's many a slip 'twixt the cup and the lip," "Every dog has his day," "Birds of a feather flock together," "While the cat's away, the mice will play," "All is not gold that glitters," "Two's company, three's a crowd," "A fool and his money are soon parted."

Two Merry Games

ANYONE under thirty enjoys these games. The first is called "Pass It." At each end of the drawing room have an empty clothes basket and another basket filled with articles of all sorts, such as books, balls, pens, pencils, shoehorn, bell, old hats, clothes brush, nail brush, old doll—in fact, anything that can be collected around the house. Choose by lot or ballot two captains, who then choose sides and place their players in line so that they face each other. A full basket is placed on the right of each captain and an empty one at the left of the players at the end of each line. At a signal from the one in charge each captain selects an article from his basket and hands it to the next person, who immediately passes it as quickly as possible to the person at his side. In this manner the articles are picked up and rapidly passed on. If an article is dropped it has to go back to the captain and be started over again. The side which first lands everything in the basket at the other end wins. The prizes should be good things among the articles passed, such as boxes of chocolate cigarettes, wee favors

like pencils, key rings, etc. It may add to the interest of the game to offer a prize to the player who can remember the names of the articles passed and write them down on a slip of paper ten minutes after the game has been played and the objects removed from sight. The hostess, of course, must have a correct list and check off the articles. This makes quite a memory test.

The next game is so old that it was new to me. It is called "Hop Over." The players are asked to form a circle about two feet apart from each other. The leader stands in the middle, holding a long, stout string to the end of which is tied a small book wrapped in paper. The person in the middle whirls the book around the circle on the floor, holding it by the string, and each time coming nearer the feet of the players who form the ring. As the book comes nearer and nearer the feet the players must jump over it. As the book is whirled very rapidly the jumping becomes more lively and makes loads of fun. If the book touches the foot of anyone that person must take a turn in the middle and try to touch the foot of some one who will take his turn. Just try this and see how amusing it is.

A Pioneer Picnic

At a reunion of about a dozen old settlers, who gathered once a year to talk over old times, the hostess (one of the daughters of the oldest guest) thought it would be some great fun to ask all the younger members of the families to come attired as pioneers; the men to wear negligee shirts, unblacked boots; the girls calico frocks and sunbonnets. Kerosene lamps were resurrected and with candles furnished the lights. Tin cups and dippers were in evidence, and bacon was broiled over the fireplace logs. The decorations were branches of trees and wild flowers. All the elderly guests were ex-

pected to give stories of their early days. The only modern thing was the invitations sent over the telephone; whereas in the olden days such messages were carried by word of mouth, so all the neighbors were finally notified of the "gathering" to be held.

Novel Souvenirs for a Progressive Party

At a recent bridge party, the hostess gave each guest a very pretty basket. For games won, the players received articles for a work basket; there were bodkins, dainty thimbles, small embroidery scissors, wee pin-cushions, tape needles, tape measures, needle books, emeries, papers of needles, cards of hooks and eyes, ribbon runners, etc. There were no other prizes given. The idea is a good one. All the things were of fine quality; the thimbles had been picked up in Italy for a mere trifle, being of silver gilt set with various semi-precious stones. At another party this same hostess gave small one-play books of Shakespeare bound in soft red leather. Once she had a beautiful bag for each player, regardless of who won or lost.

Concerning a Cotillion

A cotillion (oftentimes spelled "cotillon," which is the French) is conducted in this way: There are a certain number of couples, with a leader; if it is a large party of, say, fifty or sixty people, there should be two leaders.

One couple, called "the head couple," may lead, or a man may lead alone. The latter is generally done. He signals by means of small castanets or a whistle when to begin to dance, when to stop, for couples to separate and choose other partners. His control is absolute.

At the beginning of each figure it is the leader's duty to announce how many couples shall lead out—not more than ten as a usual thing. They dance together; then at

the signal separate and select other partners. Favors are given to them before they go for their partners.

The girls are given favors for men, the men take favors for girls, and they in turn favor whomsoever they please. After this the two dance until the signal separates them and the young women are returned by their partners to their seats. Then a second ten couples lead out, and so on until the figure is ended.

There are all sorts of clever figures for the cotillion; some do not have favors.

This is a description of some figures, which were danced at a holiday cotillion. College lads and lassies were the guests, and the affair took place on the third floor ballroom of a home noted for its hospitality.

For the "snow man" figure the boys were covered with white paper bags with round holes cut for eyes. The girls had small snow-men figures with paper caps in colors pinned on their gowns. Each man danced with the girl whose cap matched the colored button placed in his buttonhole. Another figure was a large Japanese lantern filled with tiny toys, two of a kind; as the lantern was tossed about the toys fell out, and those matching toys danced together.

The fife and drum figure was great. The men had whistles and the girls drums, each drum and each whistle being tagged with duplicate numbers and distributed among those who were to participate in the first waltz. The leader formed them in military array to the tune of "Mulligan Guards," and at the proper signal all danced.

The last figure savored of Japan. All the girls were given lanterns and all the men a box of wax taper matches. When the signal was given the men lit the lanterns and held them over the girls. The electric lights were turned out for a time, but turned on as the clock struck twelve, and "Home, Sweet Home" sounded.

A Birthday Dinner

A YOUNG matron celebrated her husband's birthday in this most charming and original manner: Five couples were asked, all congenial, intimate friends. Each one was asked to bring a joke gift representing his or her calling in life. The men represented their occupations and most of the women took articles representing what would have been their occupation had they remained unappropriated blessings.

The result was something like this: The two physicians in the party brought bottles of pills with laughable inscriptions, a doll-size hot-water bag and a medicine glass were typical of the girls who would have been trained nurses. The lawyer sent a can of "lye" as typical of his profession. It was wrapped in tissue paper and sent in a box of flowers. The president of a clean towel supply company brought a pair of diminutive towels with a cake of soap to match in size. A toy theatre was sent by one wife as indicative of what she "might have been."

All these gifts were given at the table with the dessert course. Just before leaving the dining-room the maid brought in a bunch of American Beauty roses, each one tied with a ribbon and a card bearing a wish for the happy occasion.

There was a candle-lighted cake and the birthday man said it was "most as much fun as being a boy again," "that birthdays were not half bad celebrated in this manner." The guests all said it was the jolliest time imaginable. The moral is: Just because you are no longer twenty-one do not let the birthdays pass unrecognized. Learn to grow old gracefully.

A Unique Card Party

ANY game of cards may be played at this party that the hostess prefers or that is popular in the town. Re-

quest the guests to dress in costumes representing either the face or suit cards. For instance, have two five of diamonds, one a lady and one a man, so that when all have arrived partners may be chosen for the first game.

The prizes may be a handsome deck of cards in a case, a book on card games, ferns growing in a pretty jar, a bit of brass, or a piece of pottery. The score cards may be cut out of cardboard in the shape of diamonds, hearts, clubs, and spades; the markers may be of these same figures, cut out of thin colored paper and gummed a few days before they are used, so they will be dry.

Serve hot bouillon, oyster patties, sweetbread salad, orange sherbet, small cakes, coffee, nuts, bonbons. If ice cream is preferred, use the brick, cut in thin slices, ornamented with tiny hearts, diamonds, clubs and spades cut from citron and candied cherries.

For the New House

HOME: not merely four square walls,
Though with pictures hung and gilded;
Home is where affection calls—
Home is where the heart has builded.

The men of earth build houses
Of brick and wood and stone,
The women of earth—God knows,
The women build the homes.

All old fashions are becoming new fashions and a custom that is surely worthy of revival is the hearth motto and the house-warming. William Dean Howells has an especially peaceful sentiment over a fireplace in his hospitable home, which reads: "Home-Keeping Hearts Are the Happiest." Henry James in his English house has this worthy saying, which, by the way, is from the Japanese: "Hear no evil, see no evil, speak no evil." This certainly ought to revolutionize society, if read often enough and remembered.

A prime favorite for the nursery is Robert Louis Stevenson's ever popular:

> The world is so full of a number of things;
> I am sure we should all be as happy as kings.

Dickens has said so much for us to live by, and what could be more inspiring for a living-room than "Reflect upon your present blessings—of which every man has many—not on your past misfortunes, of which all men have some"?

It is a very pretty custom to have the new house consecrated by the family clergyman, each room having a simple ceremonial.

The following is a charming toast for a house-warming, and might be read in the entrance hall:

> Peace to this house where we shall enter in,
> Here let the world's hoarse din
> Against the panels dash itself in vain,
> Like gusts of autumn rain;
> Here, knowing no man's sway,
> In the brief pauses of the fight,
> Let music sound, and love and laughter light
> Refresh us for the day.

A Japanese Tea Party

JAPANESE affairs are always effective and pleasing to one's guests. To make the rooms as realistic as possible much of the furniture should be removed, partitioning off spaces where necessary with Japanese paper screens. Use flowering shrubs, almond blossoms (artificial), chrysanthemums and butterflies suspended by invisible black threads. The hostess must bow very low three times, saying "Konichiwa" when the guests arrive and "Sayonara" when they leave. Tea should be served with no cream; use cups without handles. Sponge cakes may be served if rice cakes are not obtainable, also preserved

ginger. If something cold is wished have cherry ice. Those who assist should wear kimonos.

Have some young girls in Japanese costumes play "bag ball" (dama). Have a number of bright-colored bags filled with dried beans. Each girl tries to keep as many bags going as possible without dropping them. Another amusing game is played by means of a long silk scarf, in the centre of which is a loose knot or loop, held midway between the two players who hold the scarf on the floor. On one side of the loop a player sits. On the other side is a small object, a flower, a bean bag, even a thimble. The player who sits by the loop tries to slip her hand through, grab the small article and take her hand back again before those holding the loop can draw it tight and make her hand prisoner.

Japanese Fan-Tan

At a Japanese affair this delectable concoction was served. I give the recipe as it came to me feeling sure it will be very welcome.

To make fan-tan, cook a half-cupful of well-washed rice in a pint of milk until very soft. Stir in a heaping tablespoonful of sugar and one well-beaten egg and remove at once from the fire. Mix in a half-cupful of assorted candied fruits, cherries, apricots, and pineapple, and turn into a shallow, well-buttered pan to cool. When firm, cut into strips about an inch and a half wide and three inches long; dip in egg and breadcrumbs and brown delicately on both sides in butter. Drain, dust with powdered sugar, and serve hot.

For a Japanese Party

Write the invitations as the natives do—up and down, instead of across, using the regular Japanese stationery, which comes in rolls, or use paper napkins. Sometimes

I have seen little notes enclosed in tiny lanterns or tightly clasped in the arms of small Japanese dolls; if either are used, of course the invitations are delivered by messengers.

There is scarcely any limit to the decorations, as there are so many articles to use, screens, fans, parasols, bead portières, bamboo tables and chairs, with a profusion of pink tissue paper cherry-blossoms. Burn Japanese incense; if cards are played, lovely ones are obtainable with Japanese scenes on the backs. Instead of a bell use a gong for starting the games, and for keeping score use small Japanese favors, of which there is a great variety. For finding partners it is a pretty idea to match fans. Any number of Oriental articles are obtainable from which to select prizes, such as doilies, lacquered boxes, bronzes, carved ivories, handleless cups in Canton china. Serve ice-tea punch during the game, then a Japanese salad composed of a number of vegetables served in chrysanthemum paper cases, cherry ice, rice cakes, Chinese nuts; and, for fun, chop sticks could be passed tied with yellow ribbon for souvenirs. Use on this occasion a good quality of tissue paper napkins. While there is nothing very new in the Japanese scheme, it is always effective and people never seem to tire of it.

An Airship Dinner

Every one is more or less interested in the great experiments being made in aviation, so with this in mind a hostess used a lovely miniature airship gotten at the toy department, over her table at a dinner given for eight guests. The favors were diminutive airships and the place cards were painted with balloons and airships floating over the surface of the card. Each guest was asked to express his or her opinion upon the success of the aeroplanes; as several of the guests had had actual ex-

perience this was a most interesting feature of the affair. One of the women had been "up" and another was about to accept an invitation, so it was all very exciting. Perhaps the time is not far distant when "sky" pilots will be as necessary as pilots on the sea.

A Successful Progressive Dinner

This progressive dinner was given to six couples, but the idea may be carried out with a larger or smaller number. The ladies changed at each course instead of the gentlemen, and after the dessert course each man was asked to describe the gown of his first partner. Below are given appropriate quotations for the place cards; each lady takes hers with her when she progresses, the men retain theirs. A menu is also given with just six courses, for the benefit of the hostess, who may like to enliven a dinner party with this scheme.

For the ladies' cards:

Happy have we met, happy have we been,
Happy may we part and happy meet again.

What fates impose
The men must needs abide.

I have no parting sigh to give
So take my parting smile.

Press nobly on.

I will abide on thy left (right) side
And hold the bridge with thee.

Another move in the right direction.

For the men:

A clock serves to point out the hours, and a woman to make us forget them.

She's gone; I am abused.

Thus pleasures fade away.

So fare thee well! and may the indulgent gods grant thee every wish!

An hour like this is worth a thousand passed in pomp or ease,

Pleasure that comes unlooked for is thrice welcome.

The menu is as follows:

Oysters on the Half-Shell.
Olives, Almonds, Celery, Jelly.
Chicken Gumbo Soup, Breadsticks.
Bluefish, Sliced Cucumbers.
Broiled Sweetbreads, Peas.
Roast Beef, Brussels Sprouts, Potato Croquettes.
Yorkshire Pudding, Lemon Sherbet.
Chocolate Ice Cream.
Coffee, Cheese, Nuts, Cake.

A "Commerce" Party

A HOSTESS noted for her new and clever ideas amused her guests at a recent affair with what she called a "commerce" party. She had a number of inexpensive articles done up in parcels, allotting three to each guest. The trifles wrapped up were found at the five and ten cent store, and there were vegetables, fruit and funny joke things. Under the cord of each package there was slipped an ordinary playing card, the mate to the card is taken from another pack; these cards are shuffled and dealt to each player, who has besides the cards a small silk bag containing twenty-five beans. Then the number of the card on one of the parcels is called off, for example, the eight of diamonds; the one holding the corresponding eight of diamonds receives the parcel, and so on until all are allotted. Each guest now secretly opens his or her package. If the contents are to their liking, nothing more is done, otherwise they tie the article up so

as not to divulge the shape and they endeavor to sell it to some one for so many beans. This is a jolly stunt if all enter into the spirit with zest, and if the hostess has chosen a lot of ridiculous articles for the bundles.

CHAPTER XIV.—PARTY PASTIMES FOR CHILDREN'S BIRTHDAYS AND COMMON DAYS

New Geography Party

THIS party was arranged and carried out by a fond aunt for her little niece, aged ten. There were twenty guests, and the invitations read thus:

Miss Dorothy Brown requests the pleasure of Miss Mary Collins's company at a geography party on Tuesday from four to seven, April 21, at 3425 Spring street. Costumes.

The invitations were sent out a good two weeks in advance to give the mothers time to talk it over and plan the costumes. In many instances, what the children already possessed determined the character they represented. For example: The little boy who had a complete Indian outfit went as "The first American"; a lad who rejoiced in a good big, fat plaster pig went as an Irishman with a clay pipe and a high hat, a vivid green necktie, and a quaint little black swallow-tail coat worn over brilliant green knee breeches. The young hostess represented "Miss Geography." Her dress was of pale blue silk, with a band of maps around the bottom put on with library paste; a wide girdle was the equator. It was of black velvet and the shoulders had a series of graduated capes of grayish silk, marked "Cape Horn," "Cape Hatteras." Her neck was circled by the isthmus of Panama. On her head she wore a cunningly devised

cap of papier mâché made from a globe. In her hand she carried a wand, from which blue and white ribbons streamed, bearing the names North and South Poles.

One of the amusements was a jolly game called "Mail Bags." The guests sat on chairs in a semicircle and when the leader called out "The mail is going from Ireland to Mexico," the two children representing these places ran and changed chairs as quickly as possible. When the leader called "General Delivery" then every one changed places, a chair being taken out quickly by the leader and the one who was left became the leader when the next mail went out. Another game proved a great success. A large map of Europe was hung on the wall and each child was given a bit of paper marked "Dan" (I must explain that Dan was about to go to Europe for the summer); the game was to study the map first to find the location of Paris; then each child in turn was blindfolded and tried to see how near he could come to putting "Dan" in Paris. Each slip of paper was left just where placed on the map until all had tried. Then it was great fun to see where "Dan" found himself. Only one came any place near Paris.

The last amusement of all was the most fun. The guests were told to form in line and go into the next room to buy their tickets for the country or place they represented. They found a real ticket office, with an accommodating father as the business-like agent. As the applicant presented himself the question was: "What country are you?" The answer, we'll say, was "France." "Well, here is a ticket for Paris." When the Indian reached the office, the agent said: "Of course you want to see Uncle Sam, so here's a ticket for Washington." The Irishman bought a ticket for Cork, and when all twenty passengers were ready to start they went back to the living-room and found a train of twenty chairs

waiting to begin the journey. A conductor and engineer were on handle with whistle and punch, and as the tickets were punched, each child got off the train and found his or her city or place of destination on a large map of the world hanging on the wall. There was a pointer so all could see the place when found. From each destination there was suspended a ribbon attached to a small parcel which the traveller took for his own and returned to the train. When all had their parcels the journey was ended. The favors were small bandboxes, trunks, and suitcases, filled with bonbons.

A Tradesman's Carnival

A MOTHER of three lovely children confided to me that her great success in entertaining children was due to her aim to have each little guest equally interested.

With this idea in mind she gave this novel and really fascinating party. She called it "The Tradesman's Carnival." The very name excited the curiosity of the children as well as their mothers. The hours were from three to five thirty on a Saturday afternoon. The ages of the guests were from eight to twelve.

The tradesmen she had represented were a tailor, dressmaker, potter, jeweller, flower-maker, sign-painter, artist, basket-maker, upholsterer and carpenter. Two or perhaps three worked at the same trade. When the guests arrived they were given cards with the name of the trade they were to represent. Then the little craftsmen went to a table, where their materials were prepared ready for them, and one or two assistants to show how they were to work. One hour was the time allotted to make the finished products; then a bell was rung and the articles collected and placed on exhibition. The children were allowed to vote as to the first, second and third best piece and then the prizes were awarded. Each

child took home the object made and each received a souvenir, so felt satisfied.

The Game of Bird-Catcher

To play the game choose by lot, or "counting out," who is to be the bird-catcher; he or she then gives each one the name of a bird, barring the owl, as it is forbidden. All sit in a circle with hands on the knees, except the bird-catcher, who stands in the centre and tells a story about birds, mentioning the ones that have been selected. When the name of the bird that a person has selected is mentioned that person rises and imitates the call of that bird as well as he can, but when the bird-catcher mentions the owl all hands are immediately placed behind the chairs and remain there until the name of a bird is mentioned. When the bird-catcher says "All the birds" at any time during the story the players all give their calls. If a player fails to give his call when the name is mentioned, or forgets to put his hands behind the chair, he has to at once take the place of the bird-catcher and continue the story or pay a forfeit.

Tongue Twister

I OVERHEARD a bunch of youngsters giving each other what they were pleased to call "Tongue Twisters"; it reminded me of "Pickled Peppers," etc., of our childhood days, so I jotted down this one, which was new to me. Now, try it, all you youthful readers.

A bitter biting bittern
Bit a better brother-bittern;
And the bitten better bittern bit the bitter biter back,
And the bitter bittern, bitten
By the better bitten bittern,
Said, "I'm a bitter bittern-bitter bit, alack!"

A Fairy Gift Bag

A FAIRY gift bag is somewhat newer than the Jack Horner pie. It is a pretty way of dispensing souvenirs to the children, and adds an element of mystery that youngsters love. They may be just as expensive or cheap as the hostess wishes. First select the requisite number of toys or favors, wrap neatly in tissue paper of two colors, one for boys and one for girls; tie very securely with colored cord or ribbon. Pale green and pink or red and white make good combination of colors. Get a large brown paper sack from the grocer, one that will hold all the parcels without crowding. Now cover this bag with a dainty crêpe paper and make two bows of ribbon; fasten on either side of the bag quite low down. Attach a ribbon to each parcel (very narrow) three-quarters of a yard long. These ribbons fall over the top of the bag when it is tied up, and look very pretty. Next blindfold each child, one at a time, and let them walk to the bag and select a ribbon, standing perfectly still; then when all have ribbons they are pulled good and hard, the bag bursts and each one has a favor. Sometimes the children are given a stout cane and each allowed a strike at the bag until it bursts. A hostess may choose her own method. For very small children a little tale may be told of how a good fairy has filled the bag for the party, and interest will rise to fever heat by the time the bag is opened.

Progressive Puzzle Party

THE requirements for this party are children to make four at a table, as many tally cards and pencils as guests, a box of seals for marks or a punch—and a couple of prizes; the hostess may have more of the latter if she deems best. It may be possible to borrow enough puzzles or cheap ones may be purchased. For very young chil-

dren, sliced animals and sliced birds will be popular. There should be a puzzle for each guest. Sometimes the puzzles are given as prizes, each child taking his home. All these details must be decided by each individual hostess. The tally cards may be made at home in the shape of an interrogation point cut from colored cardboard. Number each one at the top, then place corresponding numbers on the puzzles. For instance, the players who have Nos. 1, 2, 3, 4 will take puzzles marked 1, 2, 3, 4, and go to the head table, which will be marked No. 1. Those who draw 5, 6, 7, 8 will take puzzles marked the same and go to table No. 2. When a player finishes at the head table a bell is rung, and each child moves a number ahead; then every player who has solved the puzzle has a punch in the tally card or a seal affixed. The hostess must use her own judgment how long the progressions shall last, as the secret of success in any party is not to let the guests become weary; stop while eager to go on. This party scheme is best adapted to children from eight to ten years of age. Serve chicken sandwiches, cocoa with marshmallows in the cups, ice cream in fancy moulds, and small cakes. Individual cakes are much better for children's parties than layer ones.

Games for Outdoor Parties

Outdoor affairs are very popular, and in consequence we are on the lookout for pastimes suitable for the lawn, the shore, and the porch. One called "stagarino" is played by having two bases opposite each other, say at either end of the grounds; the players are on either side with "It" in the middle (the latter being chosen by drawing lots or the old-time method of "counting out"). The game is to run from one goal to the other without being caught. When once touched he or she joins in trying to catch the others.

"Fire buckets" is another jolly game, so called from the old way of passing buckets of water from hand to hand in the volunteer fire companies. The players are formed in two long lines opposite each other with captains at the head who have a basket or box filled with all sorts of hastily collected articles—handkerchiefs, balls, hats, hair ribbons, pocket knives, etc., which are to be passed on one at a time until the end of the line is reached; the last player, depositing the objects on the ground beside him, begins at once to pass them back. The line first accomplishing the task wins.

Here is a new version of Blind Man's Buff: Divide the players into sides; all on one side are blindfolded and the other side are given little bells. No running is allowed and only a certain space allowed to play in. When caught the bell is surrendered and the captive is blindfolded. A most laughable stunt is to seat two persons opposite each other on the ground, blindfold them, and see who can feed the other a small saucer of rolled cracker crumbs first. This is a popular game with the birds, for they are assured a most luxurious meal after the merry picnickers are gone. For grown-up young people the game of "Mystic Thoughts" is a good one, and if cleverly done is really quite exciting. Two persons work together and arrange their method beforehand. They tell the company that much of their success depends upon their concentration. One of the two then disappears out of sight and hearing, the one remaining asks the circle to definitely settle on a trade and think of that one thing so steadily that the right thought may be transmitted to the absent one, who is then asked to come back. The co-worker asks a number of questions such as "Is it a painter?" "No." "Is it a minister?" "No." "Is it a blacksmith?" "Yes." The trick is to mention a profession just before the trade agreed upon is mentioned.

Another mystic stunt is called "Black Art." An object is decided upon and the questioner asks his co-worker all sorts of articles, mentioning a black object just before the right one. It often takes some time to discover these tricks and sometimes the company remain mystified, which is so much the better, as they are good for another party.

Some New, Old Games

Try this innovation on the old way of playing Blind Man's Buff. Count out to see who will be the blind man, then tell him to imagine himself in a barnyard. Let each one in the ring choose silently what animal he will be. Hand the blind man a wand or cane, and any person he touches with it must take hold of it and imitate some barnyard creature; of course disguising the voice as much as possible. If guessed correctly, the child takes the place of the blind man. Sometimes two trials of guessing are allowed, this to be decided before the game is commenced. The game of Bag and Wand is always welcome. Suspend a good-sized paper sack from the centre of the room. Fill the sack with paper-wrapped candies, snapping mottoes, English walnuts wrapped in gold and silver paper, and any other small articles that will be unharmed by falling. Blindfold each child in turn, hand the striker a stout cane with which to make three strikes in an attempt to break the bag. When the bag is broken all the rest of the children scramble for the goodies as they fall. Advertising Pictures is a new rendering of the old and beloved "Bird, Beast, Animal." A child stands in the centre of a circle with a soft sofa pillow which he throws at one of the party, who must reply with an advertising picture before the one in centre can count ten. The fun of this game is that advertisements cannot be named twice. This makes the players keep their wits, and adds interest to the game. It is best fitted for

youngsters of from twelve to sixteen. Even grown-up people enjoy this pastime. In fact grown-ups should be a factor where it is possible in all children's plays, especially at parties.

Backyard Party

An innovation in children's parties was started by a mother of three, whose babies dearly loved company. She sent cards illustrated with sunbonnet babies asking a dozen children to come in their "rompers" from three to five. On a bright Saturday afternoon the merry throng appeared to find a load of delightfully clean sand; a set of sand toys for each child and a pail and shovel. There was a low table, a tub of water with which to mix the sand to the right consistency for pies; spoons, cake tins and shakers to sprinkle "sugar" and "salt." Oh, joy! there was a dish of flour for icing.

It was the jolliest, happiest party imaginable. Sandwiches, ice cream, cake (angel food) and lemonade were served, and each child took home the sand toys for souvenirs, including the shovel and pail.

A neighborhood carpenter made a long low table from which the eatables were passed, the children sitting on long benches hastily constructed by the same obliging man. A white paper tablecloth, napkins, and doilies were used, with little pasteboard plates.

Children's Buttercup Party

Somehow children and buttercups always seem to go together; so, in a locality (and there are many) where buttercups grow, try this pretty party. Use this merry little jingle for the invitation, which may be written in gold ink on a white card:

My dear friend,
A welcome most hearty
To you I extend
To my buttercup party.

If skilful with water colors do a row of tiny figures across the card with buttercup caps and buttercup wands in the hand. Decorate with the showy blossoms combined with feathery grasses.

The first diversion may be a "buttercup" contest, managed like the time-honored donkey party, only instead of the stubborn little beast minus the tail have a large yellow buttercup pinned on the sheet, made from cambric or drawn with yellow crayons, minus the stem. Blindfold each child in turn, and see who comes the nearest in pinning on the pasteboard or cloth stem. Award a prize.

In the next stunt, provided the children can spell, pass cards with the word "Buttercup" at the top, and see how many words may be made in ten minutes, no letter to be used more times than it appears in the word. The best fun is the last, when little baskets of yellow, tied with a yellow ribbon on the handle, are given to each with orders to find all the "buttercups" (candy) possible. Of course these have all previously been hidden, and if the weather is very hot, each buttercup should be wrapped in waxed paper.

These candies come in colors, so additional interest may be added by having so many of a color counting so much in way of points for the prize; besides, each child is to keep all that he finds.

On the table have a mound of buttercups combined with ferns; at each plate, if obtainable, get the small doll-size jardinières, put a wee cluster of buttercups in each one for favors to take home. Serve chicken and lettuce sandwiches, lemonade, orange cake, and cream.

If a small maiden is to be the hostess at such a party she could wear a frock with a yellow sash and hair bow.

A Mechanical Toy Party

The invitation said: "Bring your favorite mechanical toy to my house on Saturday afternoon." This party was

wonderful, the motley array of toys assembled with their owners on the broad porch of a suburban home, one day last week.

There were spiders, beetles, bugs, both large and small, kicking mules, a train of cars, boats that made records across the tub ocean, a fort that blew up at exactly the right moment, soldiers who went through the manual of arms, and, of course, automobiles that went and also stopped and refused to go, quite like the real machines. One young hopeful had borrowed his sister's Paris doll that lisped her name and said "papa" and "mamma" as a well-bred child should.

After the merits of the respective toys had been discussed and put through their paces, the good home-maker appeared with a repast that delighted the boys. There were hard-boiled eggs, a fruit salad, sandwiches, fancy crackers and a big bowl of pink lemonade to which free access was given.

A party like this is absolutely no trouble, you see, as far as the entertaining is concerned, for each youthful guest furnished not only his own amusement, but some for all the others. Just go to the toy department of a great store and revel in the wonders there; it's a revelation.

A Paper Doll Party

THERE were twelve little maids, literally from school, who were asked by the twelfth little maid's mother to come to spend the afternoon and bring their scissors. There were two colored fashion sheets for each to choose the lady they liked best; then they made complete wardrobes for this doll and had a perfectly lovely time. The dolls were taken home as souvenirs. Lemonade in tall glasses with small cakes was served, with ice-cream snowballs, which were vanilla cream balls dipped in grated cocoanut.

An Indian Party

Now that so many children have Indian suits, try this for a party: Put up one or two wigwams and send the invitations on paper arrows through which a feather is thrust. Have them delivered by the little Indian who is to be the host. Girls may be dressed as squaws.

There are Indian postcards, which would make very good place cards for souvenirs. For refreshments serve:

Corn Meal Mush With Milk.
Fish or Some Kind of Game.
Corn Muffins.
Indian Meal Pudding.

made in individual ramekins.

Make a contest of stringing beads and have a game of archery.

New Idea for a Birthday Party

At a party given in honor of a twelve-year-old daughter's natal day, a clever mother planned this surprise: The name of the birthday girl was Rose, so she procured a roll of lovely pink crêpe paper and a dozen little pasteboard plates such as bakers use. These she covered neatly with the paper, placed a white iced patty cake upon it with a pink rose candle-holder and pink candle in the centre. When the big birthday cake was lighted each guest was given a wax taper and told to light her own wee candle. The effect was lovely and the children delighted; each one took home the plate and some saved the cake to "show mother."

Half the fun in going to a party is taking home the spoils. A mother realizing this provided each small guest with a tiny gilded market basket to which the name card was attached with a bow of ribbon and in this receptacle the children took home bits of candy, their favors, etc.

New Blind Man's Buff

For a new game of Blind Man's Buff form a large circle and number each person in rotation, as many numbers as there are players. Count out to ascertain who will be the first blind man, then place him in the centre of the circle. He must then call two numbers quite widely separated, like two and ten, and the ones having those numbers must take each other's place. If one can be caught, he is "it." If the blind man fails to catch anyone for some time he has the privilege of calling 100, when every one changes places, making it easy for someone to get within his reach. This is a good, jolly game, and children love it.

Novel Birthday Party

At a birthday party given for a ten-year-old girl the guests were asked to come wearing an object to represent a Mother Goose character. To illustrate: Little Boy Blue tooted a horn and carried a wee woolly sheep, Miss Muffet was adorned by a huge spider which did not seem to frighten her in the least, although it was very close beside her. The Old Woman Who Lived in a Shoe carried an armful of dolls which caused her a great deal of trouble. When all had arrived, cards were passed and small pencils; the names of the boys and girls present were written on the cards, and each child was to write opposite the name the character he thought was represented. "Big Sister" kindly looked over all the lists and determined who had the most correct and awarded the prize, which consisted of a lovely Jack Horner pie from which sugar plums for every one were drawn, the winner keeping the pretty gilt basket in which the pie was made; the top was covered with crêpe tissue paper, and a pink ribbon came through for each guest. Delicious tarts

were a feature of the refreshments, supposed to have been made by the Queen of Hearts.

Birthday Party for Eight-Year-Old

EACH child was given a wooden plate and a paper napkin. Then over the grounds were interesting booths, shaded by large green and white umbrellas. They were also placarded No. 1, No. 2, etc. There was a grown person to lead at the head of the procession. The first stop was No. 1, which proved to be "lemonade," with a big porcelain cup for each child. No. 2 was sandwiches, cold meats, potato salad and olives. Here the guests sat in a semicircle on a big rug. Then they progressed to No. 3, and had ice cream; then to No. 4, where the booth had bonbons and fruit. No. 5 had piles of little bags, and was the starting point for a peanut hunt; some were gilded, some silvered, and some tied with blue ribbon. The gold nuts scored 20, silver 10 and blue ribbons were 5. The one who had the highest score won a pie, the next highest and the lowest also had rewards.

Animal Blind Man's Buff

I FIND many versions of old-time games; for instance, this way of playing our old favorite, Blind Man's Buff: Seat the children in a circle, or they may stand. The leader is chosen by the time-honored custom known as "counting out," blindfolded and placed in the middle. He is given a cane; he then walks around the circle, stops and points the cane. The one it touches or comes closest to must repeat in a disguised tone the noise made by either a cat, dog, cow or horse. He may repeat the sound three times. If the blind man cannot guess he must try some one else; if he names the right child, that one takes the place of the leader.

A Grandmother Party

THE invitations, which portrayed a dear old lady in a pen and ink sketch, read as follows:

If you're quite fond of your cup of tea,
Do come and have one or two with me.
Please dress yourself as your grandmother dressed.
In her everyday clothes, or in her best.
Grandma Brown at home will be
On January third, precisely at three.

And the quaint grandmothers who responded!

And quainter still were the dear little mannerisms of each delightful old lady. The costuming would have afforded amusement enough, but there were provided little slips of paper on which were written questions about each grandma present; the tea she used or didn't use. The first question was:

Of what tea is Grandma Graham fond? Answer: Honesty.

Another question was:

Of what tea did Grandma Holmes drink too freely in her youth? Answer: Naughty.

Other questions were:

What brand of tea do Grandma Hall's guests drink often? Answer: Hospitality.

What tea does Grandma Gray dislike? Answer: Partiality.

What tea does Grandma Biddle drink too often? Answer: Frivolity.

And so on through as many brands of tea as there were grandmas present. The answers were given as charades which added to the fun. The refreshments were old-fashioned, and tea was indulged in by those charming little grandmothers in a manner which proved the art was by no means a lost one.

For a Birthday Child

THESE charming verses by Alice Corbin were written on a card, the initial letter of each line being done in gold shaded with pink:

FOR A BIRTHDAY CHILD

What shall we give to the birthday child?
A blessing, a kiss or a golden ring?
A kiss lasts only a second or two,
The ring is lost ere the year is through.
But the blessing of God is a precious thing,
So the blessing of God is the gift we bring
To the child that is gentle and sweet and mild,
To the dear little, good little birthday child!

—ALICE CORBIN.

A Knickerbocker Party

A MOTHER who was about to put her small son into his first trousers conceived the clever idea of holding a party in his honor on the eventful day. On her card she wrote: "Come to meet our little man Jack at three on Saturday, September 10."

The first game is for the amusement of the children and is called "menagerie." A picture of an animal is pinned on the coat or dress of each as they pass in line. The leader should be a ten-year-old boy, who will be able to manage better than a younger child. He says he wishes to catch a menagerie to go with a circus, and then the children scatter over the house and grounds, making the noise of the animal they are supposed to represent. All the animals must be caught, and if they are especially wary, the hunter may employ those already caught to help get the others. When all are caged (placed in a corner designated) he forms them in line, two by two, and they march around to the owner of the circus, who removes the animals.

This is a lively game, keenly enjoyed by all children. For favors have little clowns and serve pink lemonade, ice cream in shape of animals, and animal cookies. Of course have the snapping motto caps which all children love.

A Bean Bag Party

THIS affair may be carried out on the lawn if the weather permits. Make bean bags out of denim of various shades, fill not too solidly, as they throw better when loosely filled, and use the small white navy beans. Cover a small hoop with turkey red, or any colored cambric, winding a two-inch strip around the hoop; at the join leave a loop to hang it up with. Hang a bell in the bow and suspend it just an easy height for the children to throw through. The great fun is to make the bell ring when the bags go through. A score may be arranged. Then take a board and cut three holes (square) in it of different size; stand the board slanting on end so the bags may be thrown into the holes, each one counting so much. Even grown people have been known to enjoy "bean bags."

Two Good Games

HERE are some very old games, but I am sure they will be brand new to many of our young readers. The first is called "Catching the Snake's Tail" and comes to us from Japan, where it is a great favorite. The children form in line, each with hands resting upon the shoulders of the player in front. The one who is to act as "catcher" is left out. The first child in the line is called the "head" and the last one the "tail." The "catcher" is placed about fifteen feet from the "head," and at a signal he tries to catch the "tail," or the last child in the "snake" without touching anyone else. The others may defend the "tail" by moving about, keeping the line unbroken, for if the line should be broken it is equal to the "tail" being caught, and that unlucky person must become the catcher while the last named goes to the head of the line.

Now for the second game, called "Feather Play." It is very amusing, although it sounds so simple. All the

players are seated on the floor, having first counted "out" to see who will be "it." A hollow square is formed with a sheet held close up to the chins of the players on the floor. A feather is produced, a little downy thing, and blown back and forth by the players. The child who is "it" is to try to catch the feather on one of the children or directly in front of a child when that one becomes "it." The feather must not be touched by the hands of the children on the floor, nor must they rise from the floor; their hands must be kept under the sheet, all manipulations of the feather being done by blowing.

A Grown-Up Party for Children

CHILDREN'S parties for grown-ups have been very popular, and now the youngsters from six to eight years of age are having loads of fun by giving imitations of mother's afternoon teas. Real grown-up names are chosen, written on cards which are presented to the youthful butler, and all the youthful guests are dressed in long skirts, hair done up and have all the accessories of the grand dames who go to "teas" and "bridges." If desired, some of the guests may be asked to bring their children (dolls). Arrange a tea table, a small one, of course, with doll china, and have the little hostess's friends assist in "pourin." Dainty sandwiches, cambric tea, peppermint bonbons, vanilla ice-cream and angel food cake will make a satisfactory menu. A visit to the toy department will reveal some very interesting card games within the comprehension of the guests, and prizes may be given. If this feature is not practicable, the children will have a grand time in just being permitted to dress up and go to a party.

A Jolly Out-Door Party

THIS was a decided success, for the children were so enthusiastic. The affair took place in the country, but I

do not think a city backyard or a park would fall short of the requirements. Of course, all depends upon the weather, for this party requires snow and a frozen pond, if possible.

The hours were from five to eight, and it was quite dark when the gay youngsters assembled. The mothers had been instructed to dress the little guests, who were from ten to fourteen, very warmly with sweaters and mittens. Japanese lanterns were strung all over the lawn and twinkled brightly in the darkness; then there were huge bonfires built along the edge of the pond with caretakers to watch for sparks. There were skating races, running races, tobogganing and a merry game of Hare and Hounds, with red confetti for scent. The last stunt was storming a snow fort, the children being divided into two sides, white men and Indians. After this excitement they were called in to a supper consisting of piping hot oyster soup, hot buttered crackers, olives, turkey sandwiches, then ice cream in shape of snow balls with a little flag in the top of each ball; the cakes were balls, too, rolled in cocoanut form and then in sweet chocolate grated. A big sleigh took all the children home, each with a tin horn which was tied with scarlet ribbon. The horns were presented when good-byes were said.

Mother Goose Come to Life

We all know how children delight in dressing up and pretending. With this in mind a young matron added a charming bit to a church fair by drilling the young children of the parish in enacting simple nursery rhymes. None of those taking part was over eight years old. A small stage with a curtain was shut off from the main room, and ten cents admission charged. It was called "Mother Goose Come to Life," and the performance took ten minutes. It was repeated as soon as the room was

refilled, after the manner of running a moving picture show. Some of the scenes were "Old Mother Hubbard," "The Queen of Hearts," "Little Miss Muffet," "Little Bo-Peep," "Sing a Song of Six Pence," "Little Boy Blue," etc. As the rhyme was enacted a concealed chorus of children not taking part in that particular picture sang the merry jingle to a softly played accompaniment. It was all very clever and really not at all difficult to arrange, for children are satisfactory to work with.

The "Sand Piper" Game

Did you ever watch a dozen youngsters on the beach in their bathing suits playing "sandpiper?" Here are the rules of the game: The children, excepting two, turn themselves into a flock of sandpipers, hopping up and down the beach. Two are "hunters," who try to catch the birds, crying:

> Sandpiper, sandpiper, hopping on the sand,
> Come, let us catch you, and join our band!

The hunters catch the "birds," who are at once turned into hunters. The only way a sandpiper can escape is to stand on one foot or hop on one leg; so long as he remains thus, the hunters cannot take him. The children love this game, and they look very happy trotting around in their little flannel bathing suits.

Music for Children

The following delightful programmes will be most helpful to those casting about for something musical of interest to little people:

CHILDREN'S MATINEE SONG RECITAL

This programme of songs and ballads is designed especially for the little folks, for whom it is a unique as well as valuable and delightful form of entertainment.

This programme can also be given in connection with a children's descriptive piano recital, in which each number is accom-

panied by a brief description, within the comprehension of children, of the music sung or played and incidents of interest connected with the lives of the different composers.

1. The Walking Bell.....Schumann
2. There, Little Girl, Don't Cry.....Campion
3. Why Don't You Sleep, My Baby.....Rosabel
4. The Sandman .....Schumann
5. Cherry Ripe.....C. E. Horn
6. This Little Pig Went to Market.....Gustave Kerker
7. Little Boy Blue.....F. H. Brackett
8. The Elf's Trip..... .....Gounod

TO PLAY FOR CHILDREN

A musical story of fairy frolic.....Mendelssohn
Rondo Capricioso

A glimpse of sorrow and gladness.....Schumann
The Little Orphan—The Happy Farmer

Wayside Sketches.....Volkman
By the Brook—Sunset

Moments of Pleasure.....Gurlitt
German Dance—Spring Song

Hush-a-Bye Baby.....Barili
Cradle Song

Pleasant Recreation.....Kullak
The Little Rope Dancer—Skating Song

An Unpleasant Failing.....Wolff
The Tattler

The Result.....Wolff
The Complaint

A Delightful Time.....Westerhout
The Children's Ball

A Fortunate Little Boy.....Low
Happy Johnnie—Festival March

The Bird's Song.....Cerito
Nightingale Polka

The Mischief Maker.....Reinecke
The Little Gossip

The Rebuke.....Reinecke
Grandmother's Story

Human Nine Pins

THE boys are set up just like nine pins at the end of the room or on the lawn; they stand on one foot (left one), with the right one placed behind the left knee, arms folded. The girls roll the ball, taking turns. When the ball is rolled they may hop aside to escape being touched; but if the ball touches them or they put down the other foot they are supposed to be knocked down and out. This continues just like the real game, a score being kept and prizes awarded.

New Bean Bag Game

YOUNG children love this game: Take barrel hoops and wind them with gay ribbons or crêpe paper, suspend a small bell in the centre. Hang the hoop up and give each guest a small bean bag the same color as the hoop. The aim is to ring the bell when thrown through the hoop. Five trials are allowed; the one who rings the most out of the five is given a reward.

Game of Royalty

A LITTLE game called "Royalty" needs an equal number of girls and boys. One boy is chosen king and a girl as queen. Then they sit in two rows facing each other. Each follower is numbered. At the same moment the king and queen call a number, the two players bearing the numbers get up and run around the circle, the queen after the king's follower. If she catches him before he completes the circle he pays forfeit; if she does not the king's subject collects a tribute from her. When all the numbers have been called the game is finished.

An Airship Party

THIS affair was given by a mother whose pocketbook does not have to be consulted when she does social stunts, and her parties for her ten-year-old son are notable events

in the community. One good thing is that she is most democratic in her invitations, and is bringing up her son in a fine, broad-minded way. On this occasion all the children in his room at school were included in the invitation, and I assure you the youngsters were keenly alert as to what the party was to be.

I am delighted to be able to tell all about it. First, they played "airship" just exactly as stage coach is played, only the children were the gasoline, propellers, oar, rope, stars, moon, wind, etc., and what an exciting story was built by the clever man who was induced to be the "driver," and when the airship met with an accident how all the boys and girls got up and spun around. Then there was a balloon contest, the company being divided into sides, each one given a paper Japanese balloon, which they were to inflate and blow over a line made by putting up a rope across the living room, the balloons being kept in motion by blowing and fanning with palm-leaf fans. The game for each side was to get as many balls over the line onto their side as possible. After ten or fifteen minutes the spoils were counted and a kite was given as a prize, which went to the winning captain. Over the dining-room table was suspended a large flying machine made into a "Jack Horner" pie. The colors were red and white, and there were ribbons from the car to the table, one for every child. In the car were doll passengers, dressed to represent different nationalities. This creation was really wonderful and the children went into ecstacies. At each place there was a cunning little kite of red and white, with the child's name attached to the tail. At a given signal the ribbons were pulled and the doll passengers tumbled down with a dainty red and white snapping motto cap tied to each one. All the favors and the airship "pie" were furnished by a big department store, but I fancy the whole scheme could be carried out by clever fingers at home.

CHAPTER XV.—CHOOSING PARTNERS—AFTER-DINNER TRICKS

Novel Ways to Choose Partners

A JOLLY crowd of a dozen girls had a cooking club. Once a year they asked their men friends to a "spread." At the last they had this way of selecting partners for supper: Cards were passed to both men and women bearing the mysterious terms of "Strawberries," "Cream," "Lamb," "Mint Sauce," etc. The hostess explained that "Pork" found "Apple Sauce," and "Fillet of Beef" found "Mushrooms," that partners would be found and all go into the dining room. This made loads of fun and the result was a grand mix-up. Then afterwards slips of paper were passed to the men and they had to prepare what they considered to be a good menu. All these were to be kept by the girls for future reference. In arranging this repast each girl had contributed something of her own cooking.

Way to Choose Partners

At an evening party which was given to announce the engagement of a young woman, the partners for refreshments were chosen in this way: The hostess gave to each girl a picture representing Love in some form. The selections had been made from a collection of penny pictures and some were postcards. To the men the same pictures were given, but cut into several pieces and pasted on a card. Of course they had to hunt for the girl who

had the duplicate of their puzzle picture. This caused much merriment and consumed considerable time; it was a most effectual method of mixing the company and broke up all intimate gatherings of those who were the best acquainted.

To Find Partners

At a large party where many of the guests were strangers, the hostess used this method of finding partners, and I assure you the ice was soon broken and did not form again during the evening. Each girl was given a card on which was written the description of the man with whom she was to eat refreshments. Here is a list that may help some one out in thinking of descriptions. To add to the fun have a good jolly man to take measurements of height and a scales for weighing. A glove and a rubber overshoe may assist in making measurements for those who hold "5" and "6":

1. The tallest man.
2. The shortest man.
3. The stoutest man.
4. The thinnest man.
5. The man with the largest foot.
6. The man with the largest hand.
7. The most popular man.
8. The wittiest man.
9. The oldest man.
10. The youngest man.
11. The wealthiest man.
12. The handsomest man.

Famous Lovers for Partners

Romeo—Juliet.
Dante—Beatrice.
Petrarch—Laura.
Pericles—Aspasia.
Antony—Cleopatra.
Samson—Delilah.
Napoleon—Josephine.
Adam—Eve.
Jacob—Rachel.
Abélard—Héloïse.
Tristan—Isolde.
Cupid—Psyche.
Benedict—Beatrice.
Ulysses—Penelope.

Place Cards for Engagement Announcement

A YOUNG woman used these very clever cards at the luncheon her mother gave to a few favored friends to make known her engagement. A web of delicate silver cord (like what we use for holiday parcels) was sewed upon a pink heart-shaped card, a wee silver heart being seemingly caught in its meshes. The monogram of the happy pair was done in silver underneath the web. After the dessert was served, stiff white cards seven inches square were passed with pink pencils and each guest was asked to plan an ideal house for the couple; these the bride kept for "future reference." A silver loving cup was passed filled with claret lemonade and each girl drank a toast to the new home and its charming mistress.

Pretty Engagement Place Cards

AT a luncheon to be given near Valentine's day to announce an engagement, the place cards are to be heart-shaped picture frames containing a picture of the bride-elect. At her place the frame will contain the picture of the happy man. It is in this way the news will be made known. The centrepiece is to be a huge true-lover's knot of blue ribbon with a crystal vase of pink bride roses. Heart-shaped wreaths of pink carnations are to be round each service plate. The combining of two flowers is quite a feature this season.

Ice Breakers for Large Parties

AN up-to-date hostess had her guests find partners this way at a rather large informal evening party. She wished to mingle the crowd as much as possible and prevent those who were acquainted from forming into cliques, which is so often thoughtlessly done. On entering, each man was handed a paper and pencil and at once

introduced to a lady with whom he was to converse for five minutes and then retire and write a minute description of her appearance, detail of gown, etc. After ten minutes the papers were collected. At refreshment time these slips were distributed promiscuously among the men, and they were instructed to find the lady whose description they had. This entailed no end of fun, and it was some time before all found partners.

For choosing partners try matching animal crackers, which are hidden throughout the rooms. Matching flowers is another pretty way when the company is not too large to have enough varieties of flowers. Have two blossoms alike; carnations of all shades, roses, violets, pansies, lilies, etc.

Another way is to put the initials or the first name of the girls in envelopes and pass them to the men; the cracker alphabet letters to be obtained from the large grocery stores may be used. Of course, this method is only of use in a crowd well known to each other. A jolly way to pair off is to play the old-fashioned game of silent Blind Man's Buff. Make a circle, blindfold one at a time, place in the centre with a cane, then the one the blind man touches is the partner. Of course, it is arranged so that a "boy" points to a "girl" and vice versa.

Dress a number of penny dolls, two alike; for instance, two little Japs, two little darkeys, two babies, etc.; matching them is great fun.

Selecting Partners at a Card Party or a Cotillion

To choose partners for a card party or a cotillion have small cakes baked in what are called "patty" cake tins and ice with pink for the unmarried girls, with yellow for the men in the same state of single blessedness, white for the married women and green for the married men. In these cakes put such tiny favors as thimbles, duplicate

mottoes, hooks and eyes, keys, rings, etc. Then the man who gets a key finds the person having a ring, and they are mated; the girl with a hook finds the man with an eye, etc. This is great fun and is adaptable to any game where a choice of partners is necessary.

Another pretty way to find one's mate is to provide a Japanese cap and mask of paper for each one. Divide the company until all are disguised, giving each a sheet or covering of some kind; then as two persons recognize each other they remove the masks.

New Way of Finding Partners

A HOSTESS noted for her clever schemes devised this method for choosing partners at a card party: She cut out thin cardboard animals, four of a kind, as many sets as there were tables—four cats, four bunnies, four bears, four dogs and four donkeys. The latter had cords attached to be put around the neck and were large enough to keep the score. The drawings were made from illustration and were then cut out. A few skilful touches with a water-color brush did the rest.

Unique "Place Cards"

A HOSTESS noted for her clever schemes had these novel place cards at a dance party given for six intimate friends.

She obtained pictures of the guests, taken when they were babies or children. None over ten years of age. These she laid on white cards, tying with scarlet ribbon, and put one at each plate, telling her friends that they could find their own places.

A merry time ensued before the railway magnate discovered himself in the lad with his velocipede, and the white-haired matron was found in the demure maiden

hugging a doll baby. A round, chubby-faced youngster of six was claimed by the judge, while the fair debutante was revealed in a tiny baby clutching a stick of candy in one hand and an orange in the other. The ice was broken at once, and the dinner was pronounced a success from start to finish.

After Dinner Tricks

It is now quite the thing to have a number of clever tricks "up one's sleeve," as it were, with which to beguile a few moments after dinner, or to work in at an opportune moment when there comes a lull in the conversation. Jugglery is the oldest of the sciences; and every one, old or young, is interested in strange or seemingly wonderful feats.

A very simple trick is called "The Balanced Coin." Take a bottle, cork it, and in the cork place a needle. Cut a slit in another cork so that the edge of a silver dollar will fit into it; then put two forks into the upper cork. Place the edge of the coin, which holds the upper cork and forks, on the point of the needle, and it will revolve without falling. This will amuse children, especially a child who may be a prisoner from illness, or on a rainy day.

To make a revolving figure is interesting. Cut a wee man out of a thin bit of wood, make him end in one leg instead of two; make a pair of long arms shaped like oars or paddles. Then place him on top of your finger and blow hard. The little man will go round and round. Another clever feat is the Spanish dancer. Cut a figure from pasteboard; gum one foot on the inverted side of a watch crystal, then place it on a clean plate. Hold the plate slanting and it will slide down; but drop a little water on the plate; instead of the glass sliding, it will begin to revolve, and continue to revolve with increased

velocity as the person chooses. This is in consequence of the cohesion of water to the two surfaces, by which a new force is produced.

A stunt which is new and amusing and never fails to make fun is a trick in balancing. Have the one who tries the thing measure exactly three times the length of his own foot out from the wall of the room, then stand with heels together, facing the wall, then stoop forward until the top of his head touches the wall. Then place a light stool or taboret, about twenty inches in height, between him and the wall. The trick is to hold the taboret off the floor and at the same time lift the head from the wall. A woman generally succeeds in doing this with comparative ease, but for some reason the trick is not so easy for a man. So ask a woman to do it first, then it is very funny to see the man fail.

To Choose Valentine Partners

This unique method of finding valentine partners proved highly successful at a valentine party. A sheet was stretched between folding doors upon which red hearts were pinned. They were about four inches across. The name of a man present was written on each heart. As the guests entered the room each lady was given an arrow made from red paper which had a number on it.

When all had arrived, the ladies, one by one, were blindfolded and each one tried to pin her arrow upon a heart on the sheet. If the arrow was not exactly on the heart the one nearest to it was the man allotted her for a partner for refreshments. This stunt is a good one to have while the hostess makes her final preparations for serving.

CHAPTER XVI.—SUGGESTIONS FOR BAZARS AND CHURCH SOCIALS

A Forefathers' Festival

HERE is an idea for a bazar or fair to be held just before Thanksgiving. It should be held in a large room or hall to get the best effect.

A splendid thing about this festival is the number of people it will interest in making ready for it. In the first place, enlist the boys to build several wigwams along one side of the room; make them by tacking three poles together, leaving the ends outside the burlap, which is to be fastened around. Around the outside have corn stalks, pumpkins (for sale), borrow fur rugs to spread around and tie small skin rugs on the outside (rag rugs will answer the purpose). Dress small boys and girls as Indians and let them have charge of this section. Sell baskets and all sorts of bead work. The grown person to have charge of the children should be dressed as a squaw with a doll pappoose strapped on her back. Fortune telling could go on in one of the tepees. All leather goods could be sold here, and birch bark novelties. If grab bags are to be an attraction (and children love them) let a couple of little Indians preside over a huge grab-bag kettle hung over a tripod of forked sticks, the grabs to be fished out with a pole or forked stick. On the other side of the room opposite the Indians have the Pilgrims, the women in plain grays and browns, with kerchiefs and caps, the men garbed as in the pictures of John Alden and other men of the period. Have a loan

collection of old things, like candlesticks, china, snuffers, samplers, etc. If any are for sale, put up a sign like this:

GREAT SALE OF HOUSEHOLD EFFECTS!
FURNITURE, CHINA, BRASSES!
ALL GOODS GUARANTEED TO BE BROUGHT
FROM HOME
IN THE GOOD SHIP THE "MAYFLOWER!"

On tables display goods supposed to be made by the settlers' wives, such as rag rugs, towels, wash cloths, dusters and aprons. Then have a table of home-made eatables—pies, mincemeat and jellies. Take orders for popcorn and candies and all sorts of things that housewives will need for Thanksgiving. Build the front of a log cabin as an entrance to the dining room, where a New England dinner will be served; have the waitresses in colonial costumes. If possible use all blue dishes; light with candles and have a hostess for each table dressed in costume. This will give a personal touch, and people will feel much more at home with some one to look after their personal comfort. In fact, all our church affairs would be much more successful if we conducted them more as private parties.

Here is a recipe for a cake which is just the thing to have served; it is said to have been handed down from George Washington's family. Half the rule will serve twelve persons. This yellow loaf cake is good with afternoon tea:

Old Colonial Cake—One cupful of butter, two and one-half cupfuls of granulated sugar, six eggs, one cupful of rich milk, one even teaspoonful of soda, two of cream of tartar, four cupfuls of pastry flour and one cupful of seeded raisins. Cream the butter and sugar, then stir in the yolks of the eggs. Add the cream of tartar to the flour, and sift them together several times. Add the soda to the milk and stir the mixture into the butter, sugar,

and yolks. Then beat the whole into the flour and cream of tartar. When smooth add the raisins, and finally fold in the whites of the eggs, whipped to a very stiff froth. Do not stir the cake after the whites are added. Butter a large tube pan and fill it half full of the batter. After the cake has baked and become cold, ice it with a heavy yellow icing.

For an Umbrella Bazar

This is a scheme adaptable to an out-door fête or is equally good for the booths at a winter fair. Take huge umbrellas and have a circular counter built around them. The effect is very pretty.

The Japanese table would have an enormous parasol with tiny ones attached to each rib, or in place of the little lanterns use Jap dolls. Under this the attendants would serve tea and sell Japanese novelties, of which there is an endless variety.

Umbrellas covered with white cotton plentifully sprinkled with diamond dust and hung with glass icicles would be "winter" for the sale of ice cream or ices.

Turkey could be represented by an umbrella covered with turkey feathers for the sale of dusters, sweeping caps, and Thanksgiving table favors. "China," "Summer," "America," etc., may be arranged to be easy of recognition and the whole effect will be well worth the trouble of preparation.

The Seven Ages of Woman

This bazar scheme was carried out with great success, and was no more difficult than just having plain booths in the ordinary way. The posters said: "Come and See the Seven Ages of Woman." At the first table the "First Age" was cleverly represented by having all the articles pertaining to babies, even baby books, which a book store sent on commission. The attendants were

dressed as infants and were most fetching, I assure you. The second table illustrated "Childhood" and had dolls and toys galore, with those behind the booth dressed as children aged from five to ten. The "Sweethearts' Table" came next, with all sorts of dainty articles for engagement presents, heart and slipper-shaped place cards, candy, and all sorts of goodies packed attractively to go as gifts to college girls and sweethearts. As it happened two engaged couples had charge of this department and it created loads of fun. The fourth was the "Bride's Table," done in pure white, with artificial orange blossoms and white roses for decorations. Those in charge were two brides. Orders were taken for marking linen. The "Mother's Table" came as the "Fifth Age" and was presided over by matrons. Cakes and pies were for sale, also darning and laundry bags, broom bags, etc. The "Spinster's Table" was conducted by a merry bunch of unappropriated blessings. They had the tea table and had a beautiful Angora cat with her kittens; the latter were for sale. Needless to say, they went like hot cakes. The "Grandmother's Table" made the seventh, and was attended by three dear old ladies of the parish who had truly grown old gracefully. They had woollen shawls, bedroom slippers, spectacle cases and chamois eyeglass wipers, covers for hot-water bags, and many other comforts.

A Bean Social

THIS novel way of handling a church social was a great success. The invitations said: Have you ever bean to a bean party? If not, come on Thursday night to the parlors of the Market Street Presbyterian church at eight. You will enjoy

Bean porridge hot,
Bean porridge cold,
Bean porridge in the pot,
Nine days old.

The refreshments consisted of baked beans, baked-bean sandwiches, bean soup, brown bread and butter, pickles, tea, doughnuts, peanuts, and molasses candy.

After the supper there were bean bags for those who wished to play. It was quite exciting, as sides were chosen and a match game played.

Individual brown ramekins for baked beans were sold.

A Fakir's Fair

THIS name may be new, but the idea is old, inasmuch as it is much like "The Peddlers' Parade" or the "County Fair"; however, it may be carried out in a highly successful manner if an up-to-date committee work hard. Decorate the room entirely with advertisements of the wares to be sold, then dress the fakirs to represent the advertisement of the article; merchants will donate things or allow goods to be sold on commission and home-made articles may be sold by grotesque figures. The novelty is that no elaborate booths have to be made, as the articles are sold by the fakirs from trays, baskets and pushcarts. For instance, there must be the old broom fakir, who may carry home-made dish mops as well as a motley assortment of brooms, dusters, etc. The electric iron man who carries and demonstrates an electric toaster besides; the pop-corn and peanut man with a real push-cart. In fact the possibilities are many, as the children can take part and there is a fine chance for the young men to be "barkers," for the girls to sell flowers and bonbons, and all sorts of dainty home-made cakes, cookies, and rolls.

Around-the-World Tea

A YOUNG ladies' mission band got up the following very successful tea. A house represented each of these eight countries and several automobiles conveyed the guests to and fro—Greece, Italy, Germany, Russia, England, America, France and Japan.

A five-minute paper about each country, with music, furnished amusement, and the attendants were in costume. Flags of the country made the decoration with whatever characteristic article obtainable. A very small admission fee was collected by the courier as guests entered the auto and small fees were charged for refreshments, which were peculiar to the country, as the menu shows: Greece, olives; Italy, spaghetti; Germany, kafe kuchen; Japan, meshi (rice); France, vin rouge (red punch); Russia, caviar canapés; England, plum pudding; America, pie.

With good committees this scheme may be enlarged.

A Red-Hot Social

Try this the first real cold day when you are wondering how to warm up a church social which promises to be an icy affair. Issue posters on scarlet cardboard, decorate with red cheese cloth, red shades, and train a good lusty chorus to sing, "A Hot Time." Dress the reception committee and waiters in red and make the price of admission "5 red cents." Serve "red hots" (wienerwurst) encased in hot rolls, pickles and coffee with doughnuts for sweets.

A Mother Goose Market

A club of young people organized for charity gave this quaint affair that realized a goodly sum for their winter's work: It was given on the grounds surrounding a large country place, the booths being artistically arranged under the trees and on the porches. Invitations were issued in the name of "Mother Goose," who was represented in pen-and-ink sketches and also on large posters that were placed in conspicuous places throughout the town and nearby suburbs. The charming old lady was hostess, meeting people at the entrance to the grounds and directing them to the various booths. All those in attend-

ance were in costume. Old Mother Hubbard had a huge cupboard that was not at all bare, as there were a number of fine puppy dogs for sale placed there by the owner of a famous kennel, who allowed a generous commission on all sales made. "Little Lucy Locket" had leather purses, card cases, bead bags, shopping bags, etc., and Mistress Mary had flowers of all kinds, potted, even orders taken for shrubs, vines and plants, to be filled by a florist. She was not at all "contrary," but most gracious as she wandered among her cockle shells and "silver" bells. The old woman who swept the cobwebs down from the sky had all sorts of brooms, dusters, sweeping caps and broom bags. "Curley Locks" was not sewing her "fine seam," but she had several sewing tables filled with useful and pretty articles; she took orders for hand embroidery and also sold stamped pieces with the material for working. The "Old Woman Who Lived in a Shoe" did a thriving business with the children, as she sold grabs through a patch which opened and shut in the most fascinating manner. "Cinderella," arrayed in her ball gown, sold slippers of all kinds and sizes and did a most profitable business. "Jack Horner" sold pies and was the most popular man about the place, as he was a gay college chap who entered heartily into the spirit of the thing. "Jack and Jill" sold lemonade and soft drinks from huge tin pails. "Cross Patch" and "Polly Put the Kettle On" served tea, and "Old King Cole" sold all sorts of bowls, and his fiddlers three played dance music, and the "Queen of Hearts" presided at the supper table, at which an old-fashioned chicken dinner was served. It was altogether a delightful affair.

The "Story" Tent

At a lawn fête one of the most popular attractions was a small tent that would hold a dozen children seated at one time, in which a charming young woman told stories

lasting fifteen minutes. The admission was ten cents. When the story was finished the audience left the tent and another bunch was admitted. A gypsy "barker" stood outside, and another gypsy strolled through the grounds selling tickets. Any child could go in a second time if another ticket was purchased. This was a most easy way to add clear profit to the affair. There was absolutely no expense in preparation, as the tent was loaned and those in charge happened to have their gypsy costumes.

A Potato Supper

CHURCH suppers have been and probably always will be a commercial asset in raising money. A ladies' aid society issued these catchy invitations, which were printed in red on common brown wrapping paper and scattered broadcast in the hotels and boarding houses of the seashore resort, where summer visitors helped out largely in furnishing the wherewithal to run the little church during the long nine months of winter. I give the invitation so that our readers may cut it out for future use, as the scheme is adaptable for any time or place:

A sociable next Friday night!
Look down below, first left, then right,
And you will see the "Bill-of-Fare"
In English language written there:
POTATOES HOT, POTATOES COLD,
POTATOES NEW, POTATOES OLD.
Some we will boil, and some we'll bake,
And some serve in a hot loaf-cake;
Potatoes also we'll prepare
In brown croquettes as light as air,
And some make up in griddle-cakes
As nice as any French cook makes.
And then dessert—for those who wish
We will prepare some dainty dish,
"Fit for the gods," you'll think, we know,
Though mostly made of potato.

This sociable is to be given
Between the hours of four and seven,
At ——— Hall next Friday night,
And one and all we here invite;
Be sure to come; don't be afraid,
Your presence will—THE LADIES AID.

An Old-Time Concert

To raise money for a church or club, local talent is always most successful, so for this affair ask no professionals. It is often astonishing to find what resources there are "within the gates," as it were. Every one loves old-time songs and customs, as there is a glamour over the past and in things that used to be that is fascinating to both old and young. It will not be difficult to arrange a chorus of twenty-five or thirty voices with four or five fair solo voices. The chorus should dress in old-time costumes, stitting in two semicircles on the stage or platform. The minuet may be danced for one number, using colonial costumes. People will attend a performance of this kind who would not think of going anywhere else. Have the invitations or announcements worded in quaint old English spelling, and the first names of those participating should be "Delight," "Patience," "Hezekiah," "Makepeace," "Josiah," etc.

The following numbers are merely suggestions, as being favorites:

Curtain-Raiser—Chorus—"Auld Lang Syne."
Chorus—"Old Black Joe."
Solo—"Kathleen Mavourneen."
Instrumental Solo—"Listen to the Mocking-Bird," with variations.
Male Quartet—"Tenting To-Night."
Solo—"Silver Threads Among the Gold."
Ladies' Quartet—"Sweet and Low."
Chorus.
Bass Solo—"Rocked in the Cradle of the Deep."
Solo—"Ben Bolt."

Male Quartet—"My Old Kentucky Home"—Chorus Humming the Chorus.
Solo—"Twickenham Ferry."
Chorus—"Massa's in the Cold, Cold Ground."
Orchestra—"Star Spangled Banner."

A Church Shower

THE following jingle, while faulty in line and metre, tells the story of how a ladies' aid society replenished its kitchen and dining-room utensils. Here is a list of the articles "showered": Table-cloths, salt and peppers, spoons, knives, forks, dishes of all kinds, soap, towels, ammonia, scrubbing powder, a broom, dusters, several vases, boxes of matches, a cork-screw and a can-opener. A grocer sent bottles of olives, pickles, and loaf sugar. This is the verse:

Of all new pleasures under the sun,
Since ever the cycle of time begun,
A chance to do good, and have some fun,
Is surely at a church shower.
The ——— Ladies' Aid—
Of nothing on earth are they afraid—
This delightfully happy plan have made,
Of holding a church shower.

So many things we need, you see,
That quite a heavy expense would be,
So we'll give you a chance to help a wee,
By coming to our church shower.
Then come with your presents, large or small,
Tea and welcome await you all;
Or give us your number; we'll gladly call,
For the good of our church shower.

Light refreshments may be served for a small sum, and thus a little ready cash may be added to the treasury.

Sunday Dinner Market

THIS seems such a capital idea for making money that I give the outline, hoping some ladies' aid or guild will

be benefited thereby. The scheme was carried out in a suburb and the sales lasted every Saturday during the month of August. Booths were erected upon the lawn, and the committees were formed by taking the names alphabetically. Salads, cold meats, rolls, bread, cakes, cookies, jams and jellies, mayonnaise, candies, and cheese crackers were always made and orders taken for anything in the home cooking line. Young housekeepers found the sales a great help, and strangers at nearby boarding-houses and hotels patronized them for a cup of tea and a sandwich or a dish of home-made sherbet. There were young girls to serve, and the arrangements were so perfected that the burden was not heavy upon any one. A goodly sum was added to the treasury, all made by a little extra effort during the summer.

A Tree Bazar

All the ladies' aids and guilds are keen after ideas to add money to the treasury. I think the scheme outlined a delightful one. It calls for eight trees, which may be dead ones or live ones, as the case may be. Decorate entirely with large potted plants and autumn leaves, with wild grape-vine and woodbine if obtainable. The crêpe papers that come in leaf design will work in beautifully with this decoration and an entire arbor or lattice may be made by cutting out paper leaves and pinning on the trellis. Oleanders and rubber plants help out too.

Tables may be placed in front of the trees, making booths, the top, front, and sides being covered with cheesecloth on which paper leaves are pasted or pinned. If a grape arbor can be constructed, tea and other beverages or light refreshments may be served from small tables underneath the enclosure thus made. Electric lights placed among the leaves add to the effect if the affair is held over into the evening. At the end of the

arbor, have grape juice, grape jelly and raisins for sale.

Here is the list of trees which may be arranged around the room as best suits the committees: "The Pair Tree" —On its boughs hang everything that comes in pairs, like scissors (tied with ribbons), slippers (knitted or crochet, or ribbon or leather), mittens, gloves, cups and saucers, twin bottles of perfume, combs and brushes, cuff links, etc.; on the table have spiced pears, pear marmalade, canned pears, pear-shaped candy boxes.

The Peach Tree—Decorate with real peaches, which may be tied to the branches if a real bearing tree is not obtainable. On the table serve peach ice cream, peach shortcake, marmalade, spiced peaches, etc.

The Palm Tree has real palms donated by a florist, to be sold on commission, and back of the palms have a fortune teller.

The Orange Tree is literally covered with orange-colored paper fruit, each containing an article worth five or ten cents; this takes the place of the grab bag found at most church affairs. It may be presided over by quite a young girl and should prove a lucrative attraction, as its "fruit" will be all clear profit. The table next this should contain orange marmalade, candied orange peel, orange-colored bonbons, and orange cake. Orange ice may be served, also orangeade.

For the Banana Tree have bunches of real bananas; in cities banana-shaped candy boxes are obtainable.

The Date Tree will have all sorts of calendars, engagement tablets, note books, telephone lists, diaries, in fact, everything with which to make or keep a date. Sell stuffed dates, plain dates, date cake, etc., on the table in front of the tree. Suspend small articles from its branches.

The Sugar Plum Tree will have candy canes hung on its branches, bags of candy, and all sorts of lollipops and sweetmeats for sale.

A Lemon Tree may be added, or any others at the discretion of those in charge.

Sock Party

THIS party was the climax of the following invitations which were issued by a ladies' aid society:

SOCK SOCIABLE

This little sock we give to you
Is not for you to wear;
Please multiply your size by two
And place therein with care,
In pennies or in cents,
Just twice the number that you wear,
(We hope it is immense).
So if you wear a number 10
You owe us 20, see?
Which, dropped into our little sock,
Will fill our hearts with glee.
'Tis all we ask; it isn't much,
And hardly any trouble,
But if you only have one foot,
We'll surely charge you double.
Now, if you have a friend quite dear,
You'd like to bring with you,
Or if you know some one who'd come,
We'll gladly give you two.
So don't forget the place and date—
We'll answer when you knock,
And welcome you with open arms.
But DON'T FORGET YOUR SOCK.

The rhyme was sent with a tiny silk sock made from a scrap of gay silk. At the party the socks were emptied into a large basket that stood in the entrance hall.

The Feast of Seven Tables

"The poor always ye have with you."

THE bazar which I wish to describe was called "The Feast of Seven Tables." It netted a goodly sum for the

church under whose auspices it was given. There were seven tables, each presided over by a hostess, who, with her waiters, was attired to match the table color. The affair was held in spacious church parlors, and the first table to greet the eye was all in white. White china, white roses, a centrepiece of white. The hostess and her maids wore pure white, and white roses in their hair; the hostess poured milk from a tall glass pitcher—buttermilk; plain white bread-and-butter sandwiches, cottage cheese, several kinds of crackers, hot baking-powder biscuit, white frosted cakes, and white peppermint candies were in evidence.

The next table was done in green with green band china, and the tumblers used for lemonade and water were of green glass; lettuce sandwiches, olives, midget pickles, green frosted cakes, pistachio ice cream and green candies were served, and the centrepiece was a beautiful fern. The hostess and her attendants were especially charming in white frocks over green slips, with chaplets of green ivy leaves. The brown table was very attractive, with crêpe paper autumn leaves and twists of brown paper wound with artificial brown leaves. The costumes were of all shades of brown, with quaint little head arrangements of brown leaves. Chrysanthemums of a peculiar brownish tint were used, and every one was delighted with the brown color scheme as worked out. The eatables were substantial, consisting of brown bread, baked beans, hot veal loaf with brown gravy, browned potatoes, spiced cake, devil's food and chocolate ice cream. Coffee and chocolate were the beverages.

The red table was a beauty, with red candies and shades, red roses, beet and potato salad together so the red color predominated, salmon salad, sandwiches, raspberry ice and red frosted cakes. The attendants were gowned in ankle-length, full-skirted gowns of red tarlatan. The yellow table was gorgeous, with big golden

"mums," yellow or gold band china, candied orange-peel, orange ice, orange cake, orangeade, and sunshine cake were served. At the pink table there were pink carnations in vases and scattered over the white cloth, which was banded with broad bands of pink ribbon. Pink confections, candied rose leaves, pink frosted cakes, cold pressed salmon loaf with plain sandwiches were served. The maids wore the daintiest of pink frocks and were all unmarried. The lavender table was decorated with violets, pansies, and purple asters. There were lavender flowers, and on commission there were a number of copies of "Lavender and Old Lace" for sale. The table was presided over by an elderly woman dressed in lavender and old lace.

A Novel Bazar

A CHURCH member who was just completing a large new home turned it over to the Ladies' Aid Society for a bazar, which was a great success. Each room was devoted to some special attraction; for instance, one for the supper, one for the entertainment, one for fortune telling, one for children especially, and the attic floor was given up to dancing. The decorations were flags and lanterns, and the carpenters kindly put up benches for seats and turned their saw horses and nice clean boards into tables. The lights and water were in, and the gas range.

A Country Fair

THIS description of a country fair held on the grounds of a large estate will be helpful to many, for the ideas could be carried out at an indoor bazar during the winter.

Committees with efficient chairmen were appointed for advertising, decorations, booths, and entertainments. Then judges on the various articles were appointed, and the most prominent persons in the vicinity acted as patronesses.

Stacks of corn, sheaves of wheat, goldenrod and wild sunflowers with quantities of pumpkins, squash, and jack-o'-lanterns made most effective and appropriate decorations. A brown and yellow color scheme prevailed, which blended beautifully with huge boughs of autumn leaves.

The ladies and young girls in charge wore wash frocks with dainty sunbonnets; and the men who assisted wore light flannel suits with soft shirts and silk ties of pale blue. All wore yellow flowers in their buttonholes, a sunflower having the preference. They also wore large straw hats such as farmers or fishermen wear, with blue bands around them.

Orders were taken for needlework, and home-made delicacies of all kinds were on sale, and those which took white, blue or red ribbons commanded a high price. The young men had popcorn and peanut push carts, hot waffle wagons and ice-cream cones, and the young girls had pink lemonade and ginger ale; also home-made candy tables. There was a New England kitchen where luncheon and dinner were served, as the fair ran two days, and there was a tea garden.

The fancy work booth displayed a large loan collection of interesting quilts and samples which framed a background for the more modern work. It adjoined the rug section, where all sorts of rag rugs were for sale and orders taken. This booth was arranged like an old-fashioned parlor with rag carpet on the floor; cupboards displayed tin, pewter and brass utensils highly polished, and buttermilk was served with hot corn muffins.

In the fruit and vegetable department all the residents for miles around contributed specimens of their best growings, and these were for sale after five o'clock and after the judges had passed upon their merits. The flower stall was most attractive, and maidens went out over the grounds with baskets of choice blossoms for sale.

The corner devoted to animals was the delight of the children as well as grown-ups. Puppies and kittens were for sale and some baby lambs, wee chickens, a young calf and a Welsh pony. The last mentioned was raffled off on the last day. Then there was a silhouette gallery, fortune-telling, and a cat-shooting gallery, where a dozen stuffed cats were shot at, with tickets for sale at ten cents a shot. This was in charge of a band of boy scouts. The shots were made with tennis balls at a distance of 20 feet and anyone who knocked over three cats in succession got two more shots. Prizes of candy boxes were given for those who hit six cats. This was great fun for the youngsters. This entertainment was a great success socially as well as financially, as the whole countryside was interested.

A Cradle Roll Party

In most Sunday schools there is a department called the cradle roll. Every baby that comes into a church family is a member. The head of the primary class conceived the idea that it would be a lovely thing to have a baby party, so she sent this clever little rhyme, addressed the envelopes to the wee guests, and it goes without saying that the response was most hearty. Of course many of the babies could not partake of refreshments except the bottles provided by mothers and nurses. The favors were rattles of celluloid.

We are going to have a party!
  Will you come?
Our welcome will be hearty;
  Will you come?
Just coax mama to bring you;
Some pretty songs we'll sing you;
Close to our hearts we'll swing you;
  Say you'll come!

You will see some other babies
When you come;
So now no "ifs" nor "maybes."
You must come!
We're longing to caress you,
To our loving hearts we'll press you,
And we'll ask the Lord to bless you.
'Course you'll come!

A Novel Thimble Party

A YOUTHFUL president of a young people's church society determined to break the monotony of the first meeting in this way: She asked each girl to bring several bright scraps of silk sufficient to make a necktie, and she asked each man to bring a thimble costing not over 10 cents. All the silk pieces were placed in a large basket and passed, from which the girls selected a bit to make a tie; the men produced the thimbles and threaded all the needles. Envelopes were passed to the men containing samples of the silk, and then they found a partner by matching the sample with the pieces of silk selected by the girls when the basket was passed. After the neckties were finished each man put on the one made by his partner, and she kept the thimble. Serve a supper, or merely light refreshments as is thought best. If a man fails to thread a needle he pays a forfeit.

A Rainbow Tea

THERE were seven tables, beginning with red, then orange, yellow, indigo, green, violet and blue. The waiters for each table were dressed accordingly, and there was an arrangement of draperies bringing in all the colors that transformed the room into a bower of beauty. Below is the menu for each table:

RED TABLE

Ham. Tongue.
Sausage. Dried Beef. Beets. Radishes.
Cranberries. Cherries. Red Jellies.
Bread and Butter.

GREEN TABLE

Olives. Lettuce Salad. Green Apples.
Stuffed Green Peppers. Watercress. Cheese Wafers.
Lettuce Sandwiches.

ORANGE TABLE

Orange Cake. Sliced Oranges.
Plain Oranges. Orange Salad. Orange Ice.
Cheese. Coffee.

YELLOW TABLE

Bananas. Pears. Pineapple.
Canned Peaches. Sponge Cake.

VIOLET TABLE

Violet Sherbet, decorated with candied violets.
Lady Fingers tied with violet ribbons.
Violets for sale.

INDIGO BLUE TABLE

This table was decorated with blue candies and a young woman handed out blue tickets that entitled the holder to a dish of ice cream or a slice of mince pie, both of which were served on blue plates. If a guest wished to take the entire course the charge was 50 cents. One article could be ordered for 7 cents.

Fortune's Wheel

This fortune wheel furnishes an abundant supply of fun for children at a party or at a church bazar, where it will be a means of adding at least pennies to the coffers.

There should be a small tent made of a sheet and three sticks, or one loaned for the occasion. Then dress up a dummy gypsy in gay colors with a hand made by stuffing an old glove, fasten a stick in the fingers. Seat the old crone at the tent entrance, and then have an axle and wheel from off an old baby carriage, or any kind of a small wheel will answer. A strip of white paper an inch

wide must be pasted upon the outside of the tire; then mark on a row of numbers at regular intervals.

The stick in the gypsy's hand must rest on the paper in such a manner that when the wheel revolves this stick will touch the numbers that pass beneath it. Fortunes good and plenty must be written on slips of paper doubled over and each one numbered to correspond with the ones on the wheel. These may be tacked on a board in front of the wheel. A cent, or whatever sum is decided upon, is paid by the youthful aspirant to fortune; the wheel is revolved, and when it stops the stick points to a number, the number on the fortune slip is pulled off and the purchaser of fame or wealth reads his destiny amid great laughter if the fortune writer was clever.

Quilting Supper

The president of a ladies' aid arranged this interesting meeting at her country home. The society had a large order for comforters, so they combined work with pleasure. Invitations were issued for a "tufting bee," the frames were set out and everything was ready for work on the large piazza when the guests arrived. The hours were from "three to seven." At "early candle light" a supper was served. The table centrepiece was a log cabin made of twigs, and there were bread sticks, cheese straws, candy sticks arranged in log-cabin style at the corners of the table. Lights were not necessary, but there were quaint brass candlesticks on the table in which the hostess lit candles. She had potato salad, hot baking powder biscuit, ginger bread, delicious apple sauce chilled, iced tea and coffee, old-fashioned sponge cake and home-made candy.

A City Supper

Instead of having viands typical of countries, a ladies' aid society gave a variation of this idea by announcing

a supper the food to be typical of certain cities. Those represented were: Baltimore, by oysters; Boston, by baked beans and brown bread; Philadelphia, by scrapple; Chicago, by cold ham; Savannah, by corn pone and beaten biscuit; Atlanta, by fried chicken; New Orleans, by chicken pilou (chicken stew with rice); and San Francisco, by oranges or Chinese dishes.

A Handkerchief Bazar

This jingle sent to all the friends of the members of a church guild brought generous results; the handkerchiefs were sold, tea and wafers were served:

To all our friends, though far or near,
We crave your kind attention;
So please to lend us now your ear
While we a subject mention.

The union will hold
On a day not distant far,
If we have been correctly told,
A handkerchief bazar.

So this, then, is our plea in brief:
To help our enterprise,
You each shall send a handkerchief,
Of any kind or size.

To be without a handkerchief
You know is quite distressing;
From every friend let one be sent—
'Twill surely be a blessing.

If a handkerchief you can make,
That handkerchief we will surely take;
But if you can't, then buy one—
We'll thank you till your race is run.

Please send not later than———————

To———————

CHAPTER XVII.—PASTIMES FOR SHOWERS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

For the Bride-Elect

SHOWERS are perfectly lovely if conducted right, just the right people asked, and just the right things given. Only those near and dear to the honored guest should be bidden, and care should be taken that pocketbooks are not overtaxed. Let me tell you what a bunch of girls did who were close to the happy maiden and knew that she was going right to housekeeping. They took her into their confidence and told her to get the materials for all her curtains (she wisely bought a bolt so that all windows would be alike). Then the hostess sent out cards on which were written:

Said So-and-So
to So-and-So:
"Let's sit a while
and sew."

In the lower left-hand corner she wrote "For Gertrude Brown," with day, date, and hour. Such a merry, happy time, and as a surprise all the special boys had been asked to drop in for a cup of tea at five o'clock. They caught the enthusiasm and volunteered to come round and help Bob put up the fixtures, so another jolly time was planned after the happy event.

Spoon Shower

THIS affair was given by the girls of the bridal party at the home of the maid of honor. The table was round, covered with a lace cloth over green; as green and white

were the bridal colors. White roses and ferns made the centrepiece, with white green-banded china, glass candlesticks with lace shades over green. The place cards were cut out white roses tied with a bow of green, and the bride-elect's chair was tied with a huge fluffy bow of green and white tulle. White and green horseshoe-shaped candy boxes held the green and white bonbons and a green and white Jack Horner pie was passed with dessert, from which the guests drew pretty green and white snapping crackers. Each parcel had the donor's card on which was written an appropriate sentiment. The spoons were all the same pattern, and as there were six it made a very nice set. The men of the wedding party, knowing about this, gave a half-dozen forks and the same number of tablespoons of the same pattern.

A Housekeeping Shower

The hostess and guests were all young matrons, and the girl to be married was the last of the set to renounce single blessedness. Harking back to their old sorority days, when the guest of honor arrived she was ushered with great solemnity into the den, where the hostess informed her she was to be initiated into the mysteries of the Housewife's Union, and accordingly blindfolded her. Then she was led into the living-room, where the worthy matrons sat each with a cap of some denomination upon her head; bandanna, turban, two sweeping caps, boudoir cap, and hair perfume cap, and sunbonnet were represented. Each had on an apron of some kind. She was halted before each in turn and made to identify the kitchen utensil which was held out to her. Every correct answer was greeted with cries of "Worthy," and mistakes were proclaimed most vociferously "Unworthy." After counting up the "worthy"

guesses she was declared eligible and made to swear to the following:

"I, Mary Jane Snow, soon to be Johnson, do of my own free will and accord solemnly promise that I will reveal any and all of the secrets of this club to anyone desiring to receive the same; that I will make a never-ending war against germs, dust, and poor cooking, and that I will to the utmost of my ability master the intricacies of the kitchen range, the maid's temper, and my husband's appetite. I furthermore promise that I will not allow myself to become disheartened through failures, nor worried through trifles; that I will cherish a cheerful face, a cordial manner, and repose of spirit beyond any other qualifications of my home. To all of which I pledge my sacred word of honor as a housekeeper!"

Then the blindfold was removed, and how the honored guest laughed when she saw the array of worthy matrons; I forgot to say that each wore a badge of office pinned on her left breast right over the heart. These were cooking and household articles, some in doll size and some only pictures out of magazine advertisements. Next she was conducted to each matron in turn, first to the one who wore the sweeping cap and long-sleeved apron; she was asked the most approved method of sweeping and, being pronounced worthy, was presented with the cap and apron; then to the Culinary Mistress, who questioned her and gave her a model kitchen apron; on to the Mistress of the Tubs, who gave her a clothespin apron and laundry gloves for winter wear in hanging out the washing. The Lady of the Wardrobe told her to commit and recite the following:

A biased bias gathers no plaits.
Never look a pinked tuck in the seams.
One shirr in the mull is worth three in the scrim.
A basque is known by the stitches it keeps.
You may lead a woman to the machine, but you cannot make her hem.
Better is a slashed gore with bangles than a gusset of tulle and Honiton therewith.
Frilled tatting fulls deep.

Whereupon she presented a charming apron with pockets to which were attached scissors, needle book, thimble and emery. The last stunt was to usher the happy maiden down to the laundry, where she was told to put on her clothespin apron and proceed to take down her first washing, and this was several dozen dish towels and dusters. The last ceremony was investing her with a badge representing a bride above and a pretty cook below; then she was declared a full-fledged member of the Union.

Rose Shower for a June Bride

A CHARMING young woman, who was married in this month was the recipient of this unusual shower. Her name was Rose, and she had planned a rose wedding. Knowing this, the hostess decorated entirely with roses, and each guest (only six of the honored guests, most intimate friends) brought a rose in a pot, the latter wrapped in pink crêpe paper. One of the following quotations written on a pink heart was on each rosebush, attached by pink ribbon:

When we should live together in a cozy little cot,
Hid in a nest of roses, with a fairy garden spot,
Where the vines were ever fruited and this weather ever fine
And the birds were ever singing for that old sweetheart of mine.
—RILEY.

What glory then for me,
In such a company?
Roses plenty, roses plenty,
And one nightingale for twenty.
—ELIZABETH BROWNING.

Jasmine is sweet and has many loves,
And the broom's betrothed to the bee;
But I will plight with the dainty rose,
For fairest of all is she.
—HOOD.

'Tis said, as Cupid danced among
The gods, he down the nectar flung.
Which on the white rose being shed
Made it ever after red.

—Herrick.

For there the rose, o'er crag and vale,
Sultana of the nightingale,
The maid for whom his melody,
His thousand songs are heard on high,
Blooms, blushing, to her lover's tale.

—Byron.

Flowers of all hues, and without thorn the rose.

—Milton.

A luncheon was served, the centrepiece of pink roses, pink petals scattered over the table, pink candles and pink silk rose-petal shades. The dessert was pink ice cream served in little flower pots in which a pink rosebud was planted; the guests wore pink or white over pink, a pink rose was at each place.

The Dower Chest

In olden days when a girl was born the mother at once started her dower chest, in which fine linen made on the estate was placed from year to year against the time when the wee maiden would need it as a bride. This was especially the custom in European countries. Nowadays very few have dower chests, such as those wonderful oak chests often carved with armorial bearings or the girl's own name; but the twentieth-century maiden may buy a trunk and in it place articles that she sees from time to time will be needed for the nest to which she expects to go "some day." I know a girl who is to be married in a year, and she says she never lets a week pass without adding something to her "hope" box, as she prettily calls it. Perhaps it may be a real bargain in towels, or table linen, perhaps a bit of underwear or a

pair of silk hose. She hasn't much money, but it is astonishing how things accumulate when one has a steady purpose, and as she shyly said: "A bit of self-denial makes the things all the more precious; and after all, is a girl ever quite so happy as when planning for her 'prince charming's' coming?"

A Farewell Shower

This month brings numerous farewells, along with its gayeties; for commencements and weddings usually mean partings. A favorite teacher going abroad for her vacation was the recipient of such a novel shower that I am eager to tell my readers all about it.

Of course, on short vacation journeys baggage is to be considered, and her friends did not wish to cause inconvenience by their kindly attentions; so one of the girls said: "Let's give her a Europe shower," and they did. There were envelopes, great and small; some contained safety pins; some, hair pins; a wee one held court plaster; another, a layer of absorbent cotton; one, clippings of jokes; several were steamer letters. One bulky affair had chewing gum and fruit tablets, the latter wrapped in waxed paper like caramels. Oh, yes; one neatly tied envelope had needles, and various threads wound on cardboard, with a card containing various sized buttons. The envelopes were all placed in a denim bag to hang on her steamer chair.

A Bridal Birthday Shower

Have you ever heard of a birthday shower for a bride? Try it the next time a bride-elect is to be honored. This is the way one is managed. The guests are requested to bring something suitable for her birthday month; for instance, say the natal day is in February; a heart-shaped pincushion, an amethyst pin, or one of Dickens's books, as his birthday is in that month. A

handsome calendar may do for January, or a thermometer to tell how cold it is. An umbrella, or even a pair of rubbers, for April; a fan for July, a broom for September (Labor Day), etc. You may readily see how amusing such an affair could be made and how interesting it would be during the time the parcels were unwrapped.

Having funny things always adds to the merriment, and having a rhyme with each package makes enough entertainment, so that no other scheme is necessary. The gifts might be brought in a clothes basket or hamper and all sent to the bride's home after the party.

I have heard of similar affairs being given under the name of "calendar" showers; that is, when there are just twelve guests and each one brings a gift suitable for the month which the hostess designates in the invitation. Every one, of course, selects something acceptable and appropriate for the bride and her new home.

A luncheon may or may not precede the shower.

A Unique Gingham Apron Shower

A GIRL who had lived in her home town all her life and consequently had many friends, was the recipient of this acceptable and enjoyable shower. The girls (six in number) were asked to bring a gingham apron. They consulted, so there would be no two alike. Of the material each girl made a necktie which was placed in an envelope. The aprons were all finished except the hems, which furnished needlework for an hour. At six o'clock a man for each girl appeared, the envelopes were passed, and the men found their supper partners by matching the neckties with the aprons, each girl putting on one and the boys wearing the tie that matched. At the close of the repast the aprons were all tied about the little bride-elect. It was a merry time, and twice as nice because the poor neglected bridegroom and ushers were included in the fun.

A Pillow Shower

THIS was not given for a bride, but for two girls who were going away to school. To furnish their joint sitting room was the idea of the home girls who gave it. The result was a fine collection of useful and ornamental pillows or cushions, from those for the couch to dainty confections of dotted swiss and ribbon for the dressing-table. There were also cushions filled with pins of all sizes and with needles. There were denim cushions large enough to sit on when placed on the floor, and what girl does not adore sitting on the floor in front of the fire and dreaming long, happy dreams of the days that are yet to come? A bride-elect who heard of the affair said she thought such a downpour would be very acceptable.

The Practical Shower

A YOUNG woman much beloved in her neighborhood was to be married, and this delightful shower was arranged: She had grown up from babyhood on the same street, and one of her mother's friends suggested that the neighbors contribute the price of a dozen napkins and a tablecloth. Then they had a thimble party and the linen was hemmed and monogrammed. The bride was perfectly delighted. Try this when planning a linen shower. It was no more costly than for each guest to give a separate bit of linen. The same idea has been carried out in sheets and pillow cases, also towels. By the way, at afternoon affairs ginger lemonade is quite the thing, with tiny fancy crackers or biscuit, as our English cousins call them.

A Progressive Needle Party

THIS affair was the amusement offered by a hostess at a linen shower given for a recent bride: There were twelve guests and four tables. At each table there was a

bowl containing fifty needles of all sizes, and thread; the game was to see which couple could thread the most needles in three minutes, the contest beginning and ending with the tap of a bell. The two having the largest score progressed to the next table, each player having a dainty pincushion in which pins were stuck to mark the progressions. These pins had colored heads. A daintily equipped sewing-bag was the head prize, and a little work basket of odd design was the second; embroidery scissors in a case made an acceptable consolation prize. Every one had the jolliest kind of a time and it was a most easy party to prepare.

Jelly and Pickle Shower

THE guests each brought either a glass of jelly or a jar of some kind of pickles or relish; the recipe for each accompanied the gift, and the hostess presented an aluminum preserving kettle with a spoon of the same material. Hot buttered toast, orange marmalade, and tea were served, with candied ginger and peppermints. The room was decorated with nasturtiums.

Bath and Laundry Shower

A MUCH fêted bride had had seemingly every kind of a shower; finally a clever young matron proposed a "bath and laundry" affair, and it was a great success.

The twenty guests consulted beforehand, so there were no duplicates. Here is a partial list of the gifts: Clothesline; 7 dozen clothespins; a bag for same made of denim, the name neatly outlined in red; all kinds of starch; a hamper for soiled linen; laundry and bath soap; bath towels; a dozen wash cloths; a bath brush; an ironing board and white felt to cover it; several laundry bags for handkerchiefs and collars and cuffs. These were made of white piqué, the monogram being worked in colors. An

electric iron would be a fine addition if the expense is not too much; also a good sized clothes basket, and an apron of waterproof material. Oh, yes, I forgot; both ball and bottle bluing, ironing holders, irons, rest, and wax.

Idea for a Kitchen Shower

At a kitchen shower a recipe was brought with the article contributed, if it was a utensil requiring a rule. For instance, a set of gem pans had directions for making the favorite muffins in a household noted for its fine cooking. A mixing bowl had a cake recipe attached, and some scales were sent with a rule for old-fashioned pound-cake. The hostess enclosed a paper for the recipes with her invitation, so all were uniform, with the request not to fold them; then she had a tooled leather cover for them and all were presented to the bride-elect. As the lucky man was to take her "way out West" we can imagine how much pleasure this little book will be in the days to come.

A Tree Shower

A hostess with a large lawn devised this original and pretty shower for a summer bride-elect. She had the lawn gayly decorated with lanterns and rugs spread in cozy spots surrounded by shrubbery, with camp chairs and little tables where tea was served.

The guests were asked to bring articles for a miscellaneous shower. After they arrived there was a short musical programme of love songs. The packages were tied to a beautiful evergreen, a real little Christmas tree. It certainly was a loaded tree, for the hostess had added a lot of tin things like cooky cutters, graters, etc., that sparkled in a most bewitching manner.

Each parcel was accompanied by a rhyme or sentiment, which was read aloud. The bride-elect was handed a pair

of scissors and clipped the ribbons, opening each parcel as she took it down. This with serving of refreshments furnished entertainment for time specified on the invitations, from "three to five." Every one was delighted with the novelty and pronounced the affair a charming success.

For Pre-Nuptial Luncheons

The slipper, bell rose, heart, true-lovers' knot, and circle (ring) are all appropriate symbols for place cards at a bride-elect's luncheon or dinner party. They may be easily made at home. First cut the design out of paper until it is satisfactory, then use as a pattern on heavy dull paper or cardboard that comes for just such purposes.

A very slight knowledge of water colors will serve to decorate them with orange blossoms, forget-me-nots, heads of pretty girls with coronets of tiny roses, and the bride with a filmy veil.

Entire figure place cards are effective with a standard to hold them upright at each plate. At one dinner for a bridal party the place cards were little photographs of the bride and groom in frames of gilt, with mats made from the bridal gown.

A coterie of college girls had these unique souvenirs, which also served as place cards. Books were made of white satin, with the words "Our Wedding Cards" done in gold. They were to preserve the wedding cards of the girls as they came out, and there were spaces for newspaper clippings descriptive of the event; also places for a few written notes.

I think photographs of the bride and groom should be added to make this record complete. The name of each girl was done in gold on the outside cover, and thus it made the place card.

Announcing An Engagement

THE hostess asked eight girls to luncheon, and no one expected the interesting news that was announced in this fashion: The centrepiece was a low mound-shaped form of white roses known as "bride," and there was a delicate fringe around them of maiden-hair ferns and mignonette. Over this from the chandelier swung a cluster of white wedding-bells; they were tied with fluffy tulle streamers. The place cards were little standing cards of a bride and bridegroom cut out, and it did not take long to discover that the faces were photographs of the young woman, who was soon discovered to be the honored guest, and the lucky man, who it was discovered, was to lead her to the altar. This menu was served: Chilled cantaloupe, cream of spinach soup, fillets of fresh fish fried in olive oil, with sauce tartare; creamed sweetbreads, green peas in timbales, finger rolls, fruit salad, with cheese and bar-le-duc; pineapple sherbet, small cakes, coffee.

A Box Shower

A JOLLY crowd wishing to shower one of their number who was about to get married conceived the idea of giving a box shower. The boys were in on it, too, and they had loads of fun. All the gifts were in boxes, which in turn were put in a huge dry goods box covered with white paper cambric on which hearts of red, large and small, were pasted. When all had arrived the bell rang and the village expressman appeared and said he had a small parcel for Miss B——; and imagine the surprise when he entered, with the assistance of several of the masculine guests, bearing the immense box. The honored couple were told they could unpack, but each package was to be shown, the card read and speech made before the next box was opened.

Among the articles were boxes of paper, boxes of matches, boxes of tacks, boxes of soap, of thread, of pins, work box, glove and handkerchief box, stamp box, tool box and a nest of boxes ending with a wee pill box which contained a collar button, box of tin kitchen utensils, box of paper napkins, box of labels, etc. When it came to serving refreshments the hostess had a dainty luncheon put up in pasteboard boxes covered with rose wall paper, a box for each couple; coffee and ice cream completed the repast. There were salted almonds and bonbons in pretty heart-shaped boxes bearing the monogram of the bride and groom-elect, which the guests retained as souvenirs.

Giving a Towel Shower

A TOWEL shower is both practical and acceptable. There were twelve intimate friends, so the hostess purchased a dozen towels of the same pattern and the large papier mâché letters, with cotton for marking. On the afternoon for the shower all assembled with thimbles, and each embroidered a letter on a towel; so when refreshments were served one dozen beautiful pieces of linen were placed before the bride.

Just a word as to the wearing qualities of these papier mâché letters, concerning which there seems to be a divided opinion. Personally, I have found them most satisfactory. If carefully and closely worked they will outwear the towel, and that is all that is necessary.

Salmon salad, tomato canapés, iced coffee and Greek bread were served on the screened porch, on three small tables.

At a Pre-Nuptial Luncheon

BESIDES the usual love symbols of hearts, true-lovers' knots, slippers, etc., at a luncheon given for a bride-elect, the hostess had a surprise in the ices, which when brought

on proved to be relative to some personal occasion in the guest's life. For instance, that for the bride represented an engagement ring; it was a circle of rich yellow cream with a huge solitaire diamond made from lemon ice. A young girl known to be much interested in a soldier received a perfect little miniature officer with a sword. Another maiden, who it was suspected had turned down a prominent society chap, had a cold white heart of lemon ice. Every one caught the significance, and there was a merry time.

A Sensible Shower

This description of a party given by twenty-four girls for a bride-elect is certainly just the thing that many a girl would rejoice in.

There is nothing especially new, but it was all carried out so beautifully.

The girls knew that Dolly's room in the new house was to be in pink; so what do you think this was? A furnishing bee. They didn't know what else to call it. The hostess took the bride-elect shopping with her and adroitly selected lovely rose-cretonne apparently for herself. When the girls came, each brought a pink rose for Dolly, then the hostess said she had work for all, as she needed help in what had proved to her too great an undertaking for one person.

As if by magic everyone set to work; pins, scissors, thimbles, paste, tacks, and boxes all were on hand and the bride-elect remarked all unsuspecting that when she went to housekeeping she thought she would have just that kind of a party and get her room furnished. Two sewing-machines were at hand and the hostess's mother offered her services at stitching long seams.

At five o'clock the maid appeared with glasses of rose punch, with a short-stemmed pink rose on each plate,

which the girls at once put in their hair; the cakes were iced with pink, and sprinkled with pink rose petals candied. They were really too pretty to eat.

Now here is the result of the afternoon's work—bedspread with valance, set of boxes, bureau and chiffonier covers, two chair cushions, waste-paper basket, and a hat box. "Many hands make quick work," was never better exemplified.

At six o'clock in a graceful little speech the hostess, in behalf of the guests, presented the gifts to Dolly, who was completely taken by surprise.

I think I never heard of a nicer shower; each girl contributed a stated sum, 50 cents, I think, and the hostess had all in readiness. Each girl brought what she needed to help make the pieces she was best fitted to do, and the boxes to be covered were all ready to work on.

For the Bride

MANY years ago this sentiment appeared in a household magazine, and a woman confesses that from reading it she formulated a rule she adopted early in her married life. It is such excellent advice, I put it here for all brides and for those of us who are old housekeepers, too. I think the little quotation is by N. P. Willis. Be that as it may, the sentiment is one we should all adopt. Let us all try to give not only our husbands, but our children and friends "an unclouded welcome."

> The world well tried, the sweetest thing in life
> Is the unclouded welcome of a wife.

Novel Bridal Shower

THIS was such an unusual way of showering the gifts that I am delighted to tell my readers about it, for the guests had the jolliest kind of a time. In the big living room picture ads (with names carefully concealed) were

pinned and placed about the room. The guests were given cards on which to write down the articles advertised. The cards and pictures bore duplicate numbers. Then all went into another room, where the answers were found each in the form of a package done up in white tissue paper, tied with ribbon (being the articles the ads displayed). All the parcels were one by one put into a large white-ribboned clothes basket and given to the bride-elect, who proceeded to open them amid showers of laughter, as the contents revealed how far short many guesses were.

Fried oysters, coleslaw and coffee were served.

Progressive "Hearts"

This is a variation of the ordinary game of "hearts" and may be played at an engagement announcement party or for any pastime at either a daytime or evening party. On each table have six cubes; on each cube have the letters "H E A R T S," one letter on each of six sides. Shake these and turn onto the table, certain letters counting so much for game; the number to be decided by the hostess. The ones who played thought the game amusing and very enjoyable. Heart-shaped aprons were given to the guests before they began to play, and the score was kept with candy hearts. Heart-shaped ice cream and cakes furnished the refreshments. The cakes were iced with white with the initials of bride and groom-elect traced upon them; and that is the way the news was made known.

For the Bride-Elect

The maid of honor gave this pretty luncheon to the bride. Only the three maids and two other near friends were the guests, making just seven at table. The decorations were white roses in a tall crystal vase; an individual

vase at each place held a single white rose, and between the doors entering the dining room a white wedding-bell was suspended. From the bottom of the bell four white satin ribbons floated, which were pulled by the four attendants, revealing four dainty parcels containing "something old, something new, something borrowed, and something blue" to be worn by the little bride on her wedding day. Tiny white satin slippers held white heart-shaped bonbons, and the cake contained a ring, thimble, and coin. It was altogether a merry, sweet girlish affair, full of charms and happy confidences such as only girls of a certain age indulge in when the geese are all swans, the bloom still on the peach, and the world viewed through rose-colored glasses. Would that the spell lasted always!

Table for Bridal Luncheon

The guests were the attendants at the wedding which took place the week this luncheon was given by the matron of honor. All the appointments were apropos of the event to follow. For the centrepiece there was a circular path of rice, the edges defined by small trees found in the toy department. In the centre of this was a little automobile with the dearest of doll bride and groom, a tiny trunk, hatbox, and suit case, all marked with the initials of the bride- and groom-elect. Around the path a procession of bridal attendants marched, even to the "bride" and her "father," the ring-bearer, and the flower girls.

The places were outlined with wreaths of myrtle; and pink sweet-peas and pink slippers held candied puffed rice at each place. From a beautiful gilded circular basket suspended over the table by pink tulle a pink ribbon radiated at each place; these streamers were pulled at the close of the repast and brought forth a pink kid jeweller's box for each containing the bride's souvenirs

for her maids which were little finger rings containing the initials and date on two golden hearts. They were especially made and very pretty.

To Announce an Engagement

At a luncheon given for a dozen girls the guests were astonished to find a dainty little blue satin bag at each place, the silk cord drawing the top tightly together. Of course all were curious to see inside and found a wee toy pussy cat with a tiny card tied by narrow blue ribbon around its neck, saying "Marian James, Jack Jones, Engaged."

Thus the cat was let out of the bag and congratulations followed. Oh, yes, I forgot to say that a little wedding bell was tied to the ribbon around kitty's neck with the cards.

At a card party some of the guests noticed that the ace of hearts in each pack had initials in gilt on it and it took some time to make out that these initials were those of the hostess and a young man whom they had all been questioning about. So here are two new ways of making the glad tidings known.

Distributing Wedding Favors

At a bridal party at which only young people were the guests the prophetic symbols were allotted in this pretty manner: A huge white frosted cake, baked in a funnel pan, was the centrepiece. The bride tied a silver turquoise set ring (it was to be a December wedding and turquoise is the stone) to a length of white satin ribbon, a solid silver turquoise set thimble to another, a quaint Chinese coin to one, a beautiful silver turquoise-studded hand-made button to a fourth and a silver heart and silver key to the others. These she dropped into the centre of the cake in the opening; the ends ran outward

around the table, where each ended with a white cardboard heart, on which the monogram of bride and bridegroom was done in gold. After dessert all drew ribbons, and those lucky enough to draw the tokens applied the prophecy to themselves. The white ribbons and heart monograms made pleasing souvenirs for the others.

Another bride had her shower bouquet made in as many parts as she had favors. As she went up the stairs she untied the binding streamers of tulle and threw the parts over the railing, where they were caught by the bridal party.

To Go With Work Basket

THE members of a little sewing club equipped a dainty work basket for one of their members who was to be married and go over the seas as the wife of a young missionary. Some of the gifts were accompanied with descriptive rhymes which added to the enjoyment of the occasion. I give three of the best:

No ancient knight has borne me
Aloft on the battlefield,
Yet dames and maidens countless
Still use me as a shield.
—Thimble

A sharp and deadly weapon
Or a harmless little drill,
For boring holes in dainty stuffs.
At my lady's own sweet will.
—Stiletto.

'Tis never too late to mend,
Is the message with which I'm sent,
And though the houses I can't repair,
I often collect the rent.
—Darning Needles and Cotton.

Engagement Announcements

THE announcement of an engagement marks a joyous period in a girl's life, and the news should be made known

amid the happiest of surroundings. Here is the way one young woman told the glad tidings: Invitations for luncheon were sent to eight of her chosen companions, who were the ones she first wished to tell. The centrepiece was a low vase filled with tall stalks of larkspur; at each place was a small sponge-cake lady-finger encircled by a paste diamond ring purchased at the 5-and-10-cent store, while the bride-elect had her own engagement ring on hers with a spray of artificial orange blossoms tied to it. All the others had knots of blue ribbon, her chosen color.

Another simple but effective way of announcing the news is to have a ribbon running to each place from the centre with a heart attached with just one letter on it; the whole spelling "CONGRATULATIONS." This scheme of course requires as many guests as there are letters; the one holding letter C should be seated next to the bride-elect, and if the lucky man is present, the one having the last letter should be placed next to him. Of course every one immediately showers him with congratulations. Sometimes the letters spell "Congratulate us" or "Congratulate us two," according to how many are being entertained.

One girl created lots of fun by giving a luncheon at which a lantern filled with scarlet geraniums was the centrepiece. At each place was a red candle in a small brass holder—(cost ten cents), and a roll of paper tied with gilt and red cord sealed with red. The name of the guest was attached written on a small card. The hostess said these were documents containing valuable information and a prize would be given to the one who first made out the record contained and told it to the others. Everyone got busy and carefully opened the mysterious document, which on close examination appeared perfectly blank. The hostess then suggested that the candles be lighted (the maid appeared with wax matches) and the

"parchment" held over the flames; whereupon the writing, done in invisible ink, began to appear and the announcement made from "Cupid's Court" of the engagement of Marie George and Homer White.

Excitement ran to high pitch, as the announcement was a complete surprise, and the smiling hostess was overwhelmed not only with good wishes, but upon the way she had kept her secret and the novel way in which she told it.

This is the way a girl who was betrothed to a young architect made known her engagement. Her mother gave a dinner party, the centrepiece was a cunning doll-house over which hung this sentiment printed as a sign board: "Home Keeping Hearts are Happiest." The hostess explained that the key at each plate would give the answer to the situation, as one of them would unlock the padlock on the front door and reveal the owner. Every one tried except the daughter of the house. As all gave up, she said perhaps the very tiny key at her place would do it; it did, and the man in the question was announced as the architect. It was all very amusing as the light began to dawn.

Last of all the schemes that have come to my notice lately is that by which the announcement was made by birds. The hostess had a "pie" made and there were just "twenty-four" guests. It was an afternoon party, and the "pie" was brought in with refreshments. Each guest pulled a ribbon, on the end of which was a little toy blackbird bearing a card with some bit of gossip such as "One little bird said, 'There is something in the air'"; another said, "It's time for billing and cooing"; another said, "The bride-to-be is not far away"; one said, "He is coming to town this week," etc., until the day, date, and hour are told by the birds. This, of course, will have to be arranged by each individual hostess, but the scheme is a very good one and makes much merriment.

An Announcement Luncheon

A YOUNG woman whose engagement had been kept a profound secret, owing to the fact that the happy man was in a distant country, wished to announce her news and at the same time select her bridal party. She asked the would-be matron of honor and the five maids to a luncheon. There was nothing unusual in this, for they were all good friends. On entering the dining-room they found a pink and white rose table. A low bowl held several dozen bride and bridesmaids' roses. At the matron's plate there was a white and pink rose tied with pink and white gauze ribbon; at the others a single bridesmaid rose tied with white gauze. From the mass of roses to each plate pink and white satin ribbons alternately radiated, ending with a gilt arrow on one and a gilt heart on the next. Every one exclaimed, but the hostess gave no explanation until all were seated, then she asked each girl to pull her ribbon carefully, and lovely wee dolls exquisitely dressed as bride, matron and maids came from the roses where they had been concealed by ferns and vines. In this way the story was told and the requests made.

An Announcement Party

THERE was nothing unusual about the invitations to this party, which was an affair for about thirty young people who were in the same social set. When the dancing commenced some one observed that the young hostess seemed especially taken with a young man who had recently come to town. Presently some one noticed that the wedding march was being played by the harp which furnished the music. This was followed by these melodies: "Mendelssohn's Wedding March," the "Bridal Chorus" from "Lohengrin," "Hearts and Flowers," "My Heart at Thy Sweet Voice," "The Voice That Breathed O'er Eden,"

"Believe Me If All Those Endearing Young Charms," "The Sweetest Story Ever Told," "Beloved it is Morn," "Oh Promise Me."

The songs were rendered by a vocalist behind a screen. When the program was finished the host and hostess asked all to come to the dining-room, where a large loving cup was passed, and all were asked to drink to the health of the happy pair who stood side by side while the toasts were being offered. Then all went back for a merry, informal dance amid showers of congratulations.

An Announcement Party

This was given in the evening, and both men and women were asked. There were about twenty guests, all good friends, so the affair was not at all stiff. The hostess passed cards tied with true-lover's knots of blue with little blueprints (snapshots) of the happy pair at the top. Below, the word "Matrimony" was printed in blue and gold letters. The game was to see how many words (proper names barred) could be made in a half-hour.

Every one was surprised at the announcement, which was told without any other explanation, and the couple were overwhelmed with congratulations.

At the conclusion of the word contest a basket was passed containing tiny bells, wee slippers, two rings, two hearts, envelopes containing a love message, etc. Thus partners were found by matching these love tokens. Then, to the music of Lohengrin's wedding march, they went to the dining-room, where this dainty repast was served: Creamed chicken in heart-shaped patties; hot biscuit, also heart-shaped; ambrosia and pink-iced heart cakes. "Lover's delight" nectar was served in tall glasses. This was merely grape juice with plenty of cracked ice.

A Hosiery Shower

Covers were laid for ten; the hostess seated the honored guest opposite her at the foot of the long table; the chair was decorated with a large bow of white tulle; the centrepiece was bride roses in a low-cut glass bowl, over which a dear little Cupid was suspended. Across the room there was a narrow white satin ribbon in lieu of a clothesline, from which hung ten pairs of silk hose, fastened on with gilded clothes pins. They were arranged just to hang over the space occupied by the long table. From the toe of each pair the donor's card was attached by ribbon, and on each card a sentiment or jingle was written.

A Garden Shower

This is the very latest in "showers," but it is not appropriate except for the girl who is to go to housekeeping where there is a yard. Would that every bridegroom could endow his bride with a good old-fashioned garden. This affair is especially appropriate for a lawn or porch party, with the guests expected to wear tub suits; each one to bring a potted plant, vine, slip, bush, shrub or even flower seeds. The refreshments are to be characteristic, with ice cream in flower pots, tiny watering cans for souvenirs, garden tools as a joint gift to the bride from those present. Each one should give instructions as to the care of the particular floral offering that she brings. This may be made a most unique affair, quite out of the ordinary.

An Announcement Dinner

In years gone by, when a girl was to be married she had a wedding either large or small according to her pocketbook and her own individual wishes. Now when there is to be a wedding the engagement is announced with due pomp and ceremony entailing often-

times a large social affair. Then all the aunts and cousins on both sides of the house plan an array of parties. Just before the wedding there are showers galore. And then the wedding day.

After the honeymoon all the people who entertained for the bride-elect feel in duty bound to invite the bride and groom to a round of parties until, as one newly-made benedict expressed it, he felt as if out of self-protection he and his wife would have to flee to the tall timbers in order to become acquainted with each other and avoid being constantly on parade.

This is a description of a most charming announcement dinner given to the young people to be included in a bridal party. The centrepiece was a gorgeous heart of pink carnations, and the place cards were tied to dainty pink bows and arrows. The following menu was written in gold on heart-shaped cards: "Cream of Love Apples," which was tomato soup; "Chickens that have lost their hearts," chicken breasts made into cutlets; "Turtle Dove" salad, made from squabs served in heart-shaped cases. The ice cream was in true-lover's knots and the cakes were "kisses." The bonbon boxes at each plate were pink satin hearts with the initials of the couple done in gold letters.

With the dessert the maid brought in a beautiful Jack Horner pie in the shape of a wedding bell; the pink ribbons were drawn by the girls, the blue by the men in the party. On the end of each was a card bearing the two names and such messages as "Will you be our maid of honor?" "Will you serve as our best man?" etc.

Every one was wildly excited, of course, and more so when, with the coffee in the drawing-room, the bride and groom-elect gave the attendants presents, which for the girls were carved ivory parasol handles and for the men stunning umbrella handles. They were all requested to say what color they wished the respective covers to be

and were invited to a dinner after the wedding to be given in the new home at which the parasols and umbrellas were to be ready for use. This certainly was an innovation in bridal gifts, and a very practical one.

Announcement Luncheon

Rice and slippers, slippers and rice,
Quaint old symbols of all that's nice
And a world made up of sugar and spice,
With a honeymoon always shining;
A world where the birds keep house by twos,
And the ringdove calls and the stockdove coos,
And maids are many and men may choose,
And never shall love go pining.

Thise pretty quotation was written on the heart-shaped place card which each maid found at her place at a lily-of-the-valley luncheon (if these dainty flowers are not in season, use white roses or whatever is easily obtainable, according to the locality). There were little slippers, the bag top being filled with rice; tiny white tapers in wee glass holders at each place; and the girl's candle that burned clearest, without sputtering or smoking, was supposed to be the next bride. The symbols told the story, and the huge bow of white tulle on the bride-elect's chair told who was the honored maid.

Toasts and Sentiments

For Sweethearts and Brides

Here's to man, God's first thought.
Here's to woman, God's second thought.
As second thoughts are best,
Here's to woman.
He that hath wife and children hath given hostages fortune.

No jealousy their dawn of love o'ercast,
Nor blasted were their wedding days with strife;
Each season looked delightful as it passed
To the fond husband and the faithful wife.

God, the best maker of all marriages,
Combine your hearts in one.

One cannot be fully happy until after his sixtieth year.

What hath this day preserved? What hath it done,
That it in golden letters should be set
Among the high tides in the calendar?

Our day of marriage shall be yours—
One feast, one house, one mutual happiness.

This night I hold an old accustomed feast,
Whereto I have invited many a guest,
Such as I love; and you among the store.

They eat and drink, and in communion sweet
Quaff immortality and joy.

May every joy attend you,
And heaven daily send you
Blessings in heart and home,
A faithful knight to tend you,
And gallantly defend you,
Wherever you may roam.

She is beautiful, therefore may be wooed,
She is a woman, therefore may be won.

Oh! there's nothing half so sweet in life
As Love's young dream.

For love is heaven and heaven is love.

'Tis better to have loved and lost
Than never to have loved at all.

There's beggary in the love that can be reckoned.

Then come the wild weather,
Come sleet or come snow,
We will stick by each other,
However it blow.

To the housewife—May her coffee and the slanders against her alike ever be without grounds.

Recipe for Happiness

To make it—Take a hall dimly lit,
A pair of stairs where two may sit,
Of music soft, a bar or so,
Two pairs of—just two pairs, you know
A waist the size to be embraced;
And two ripe lips, rosebud, to taste,
And if the lips are soft and sweet,
You'll find your happiness complete.

Shower for a Bridegroom

A CERTAIN bride-to-be had been the recipient of showers innumerable, so a dozen young bachelors carried out this scheme. They invited a dozen girls to a "den" and "shop" shower. All the bridegroom's intimate friends knew his fad for using tools and his dream of a shop of his own. The affair was given at night, and a right merry time resulted. The girls arranged to bring articles especially suitable for the den and the men came bearing a good-sized chest for the tools, with many acceptable instruments. There were no invitations out for this wedding, as it was to be an entirely private ceremony, so the friends were glad to make an opportunity for bestowing some tokens of esteem. A Dutch supper was served at ten o'clock, consisting of potato salad, rye bread sandwiches, herring, pickles, coffee, beer, with crackers, cheese and apple tarts.

An Engagement Announcement

How shall I tell the girls of my engagement? was the question confronting a pretty senior at college who wished to break the news before the girls separated for the summer. This is the way she did it.

There were just twelve girls, so she purchased twelve imitation diamond rings for a trifling sum (about 20

cents each), placed them in ring boxes bearing the name of the most reliable jeweler in the town and put them on the place cards beside each plate. Her own blazing solitaire she put in the box beside her plate.

Of course, the first thing the girls did was to open the boxes, and it did not take two minutes to distinguish the real significance of the occasion, and hearty congratulations followed.

Announcing an Engagement

How to announce Polly's engagement was the question before the house. "I will tell you what we'll do," said the never-failing clever woman, "I'll do it all." She took cream-colored correspondence cards and with her typewriter wrote little incidents in the engaged girl's life, and these cards, when placed in chronological order, revealed the news. The cards were passed with the dessert course, and the subjects covered were her first day at school, the graduation, her debut, her trip abroad, her most eventful episode, and then the dénoument. After all had read the cards, a huge silver loving-cup filled with claret punch was passed, each girl making a wish for the honored guest. The nut-holders and cake were heart-shaped, and the flowers were pink roses and forget-me-nots. After luncheon the hostess produced a dozen pretty cross-bar tea towels, which were hemmed with tongues and fingers new. Altogether, Polly said that it had been the "happiest time ever."

Guessing Who Is Engaged

A YOUNG woman who had been away from her home town on a prolonged trip returned and announced her engagement in this way. She had managed to keep her secret, and so when eight of her girl friends were bidden to a luncheon they did not suspect the dénouement that was to be made. When they went to the dining-room the

decorations and cards set them to thinking, for the centrepiece was a glass *plateau* on which was placed a boat under sail. There were suit-case favors at each place with a card, which read: "The man in the case"; also wee satin bags out of which a cat's face came with a wee card around its neck saying, "The cat's out of the bag." The hostess explained that the centrepiece represented the "Sea of Matrimony," and told the guests they were to guess who was about to embark upon it. The suit cases were opened and revealed the photograph of the "man in the case," but no one knew him. By adroit questioning the hostess was found out, and congratulations followed.

Carnival of Merry Lovers

A YOUNG woman who wished to announce her engagement in a unique manner issued invitations for a fancy dress party in which the guests were requested to come dressed as "famous lovers." Husbands and wives, brothers and sisters, maids and their favorite swains came together and great was the fun trying to guess who was who. There were John Alden and Priscilla, Hiawatha and Minnehaha, Paul and Virginia, Queen Elizabeth and Essex, Dante and Beatrice, Napoleon and Josephine, etc. All characters were kept secret and the host asked the following questions:

Are you fact or fiction?
Are you living or dead? (If left alive in the story they are supposed to be living.)
Did your love lead to marriage?
Either. What prevented?

Or, Did you live happy ever after:

What influence had the man's love on the woman?
What influence had the woman's love on the man?
What was the most stirring event of your history?

The young hostess was dressed in a becoming evening gown, and her brother, who acted as host, was not dis-

guised. There was one man whom no one could guess as he wore a masque and black domino. After a lively time guessing, and when nearly every one was discovered the mysterious stranger was found beside the hostess and her brother in the following words broke the news to the merry lovers:

As you, dear friends, are fact and not fiction, living and not dead; as your love led to marriage, and you have lived happy ever after, we wish to-night to offer our congratulations and our good wishes for the future to our hostess and her fiancé, Mr. John Blank.

It is needless to say that hearty congratulations were in order and a jolly dance followed. The refreshments were simply ice cream in the shape of double hearts, one pink, one white, and small heart cakes. A fruit frappé was served from a bowl surrounded by a wreath of pink roses, and each guest was given a rose as a souvenir.

THE END.